

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 21, 2012

President Barack Obama
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Obama:

We write to express our grave concern regarding the Administration's non-transparent pursuit of an Executive Order related to cybersecurity. Now is not the time to put heavy-handed regulations on industries that need incentives to improve their cyber defenses and share cyber threat information. Instead of preempting Congress' will and pushing a top-down regulatory framework, your administration should engage Congress in an open and constructive manner to help address the serious cybersecurity challenges facing our country.

This Congress the House passed bipartisan cybersecurity legislation in sober recognition that cyber attacks have grown by 650 percent in the past 5 years. Allowing these trends to proliferate and failing to provide real solutions harms job-creation, consumer protection, and the future of the Internet, whose future success will greatly depend on improving user trust and security online.

That is why the House supported legislation that provides liability protections for information-sharing with strong privacy safeguards. This framework will work better than attempts to place the government in charge of overseeing minimum standards for industries seeking to invest in new and innovative security solutions. Incentive-based security is necessary because rapid changes in technology guarantee the failure of static, regulatory approaches. We believe stakeholders in the cyber ecosystem should be encouraged to develop and deploy innovative security solutions in a cooperative fashion.

Let's work together to enhance our cybersecurity so we can improve our national security and ensure greater confidence in the global online marketplace. Imposing a backdoor regulatory framework through Executive Order will not solve our cybersecurity challenges. We urge you to find common ground and work with Congress on real solutions.

Sincerely,



Marsha Blackburn
Member of Congress



Steve Scalise
Member of Congress

Tim Walby MI-07 Jaime Herrera Beutler WA-03
MO-4

Wicky Hartzler Rui Wang FL-11

Paul Sutton IN-3 Tim Griffin AR-2

Rick Allen TX-22 Greg Dwyer CO-4

Bill Lisle MO-9 John Abney Culberson TEXAS 7

Mo Brooks AL-5 Cynthia Lummis Wyo.

Steve Pearce NM-2 BJ Dill OH-18

Virginia Fox - NC-05

Bob Goodlatte VA-06

Tom Graves GA-9

Tim Knebelkamp KS-01

Ace Meyer NC-09

Steve MD-01

Dan Benisovich MD

Jeff Duncan SC-3

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Larry Buescher

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Bill Johnson

Joe Wilson

Walter B. Jones

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Gilly Long MO-07

Paul Brown

Doug Lamborn

Member Signatures

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