



**Brian J. Raymond**

Director  
Technology Policy

March 26, 2012

The Honorable John McCain  
United States Senate  
241 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison  
United States Senate  
284 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator McCain and Senator Hutchison,

On behalf of the 12,000 members of the National Association of Manufacturers (NAM), the largest manufacturing association in the United States representing manufacturers in every industrial sector and in all 50 states, I am writing to express the NAM's support for S.2151, the *Strengthening and Enhancing Cybersecurity by Using Research, Education, Information, and Technology Act* or "SECURE IT" Act.

Manufacturers through their comprehensive and connected relationships with customers, vendors, suppliers, and governments are entrusted with vast amounts of data. They hold the responsibility of securing this data, the networks on which it runs, and the facilities and machinery they control at the highest priority level. Manufacturers know the economic security of the United States is directly related to our cybersecurity.

The NAM supports the government sharing timely and actionable threat and vulnerability information with the private sector. We also support the creation of a voluntary framework that allows companies to share information with the government and with each other without creating new liabilities.

NAM member companies also support allowing the private sector to continue developing appropriate general and industry-specific best practices in collaboration with the Federal government for improved security. Encouraging manufacturers to adopt industry-standard best practices through incentives is the best way to ensure innovation while addressing the evolving threats to our nation's security. In contrast, mandates on the use of specific technologies or standards and imposing a prescriptive regulatory framework would unduly inhibit innovation.

The SECURE IT Act addresses these issues important to manufacturers. The bill would allow for voluntary information sharing across the cyber community and protect information owners from liability stemming from those actions. It would also help secure government networks, increase the penalties for cybercrime, and prioritize cybersecurity research using existing government dollars. The SECURE IT Act does this without creating a new and unnecessary regulatory burden on manufacturers.

*Leading Innovation. Creating Opportunity. Pursuing Progress.*

The Honorable John McCain  
The Honorable Kay Bailey Hutchison  
March 26, 2012  
PAGE 2

The NAM and all manufacturers remain intensely committed to working with Congress to secure our cyberinfrastructure from harm. We look forward to thoughtful discussions and examination by all the Committees with jurisdiction on this issue to ensure that any legislation that moves forward mitigates the cyber threat facing our nation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "B. Raymond", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

Brian J. Raymond  
Director, Technology Policy

cc: United States Senate