ANGUS S. KING, JR.
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# United States Senate

March 11, 2014

The Honorable Dianne Feinstein
Chairman
Select Committee on Intelligence
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Saxby Chambliss
Vice Chairman
Select Committee on Intelligence
Washington, D.C. 20510

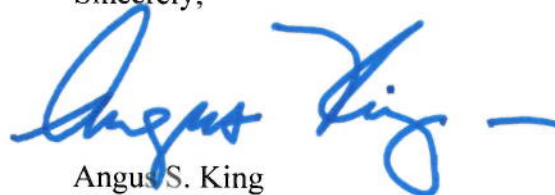Dear Chairman Feinstein and Vice Chairman Chambliss:

Since joining the Senate Intelligence Committee in January 2013, I have become increasingly concerned about cyber activity that could cause catastrophic damage to our nation. As Director Clapper wrote in his statement for the record at our open threat assessment hearing in January, "the likelihood of a destructive attack that deletes information or renders systems inoperable will increase as malware and attack tradecraft proliferate."

I know that you share these concerns and I commend your efforts over the last several years to develop cyber security information sharing legislation. I have sought regular updates on the progress of your bill, and it is clear to me that significant headway has been made to overcome what at one point were substantial hurdles. Specifically, I applaud your willingness to find compromise on questions concerning liability protection for private entities and the establishment of a process for the real-time sharing of cyber threat indicators and countermeasures with the federal government.

Although it will undoubtedly be a challenge to pass a cyber security information sharing bill in the Senate this year, I hope that you will continue to advance this effort at the Committee level. As such, I ask that you consider scheduling a mark-up of your joint legislation this spring. While I may not agree with every aspect of your proposal, I will certainly lend my support to helping move this vital legislation forward.

Thank you for your consideration of this request and please do not hesitate to tell me if I can be of any assistance in bringing this legislation to a vote in the Committee. I appreciate your continued efforts in furtherance of our national security.

Sincerely,

Angus S. King
United States Senator