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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS WASHINGTON, DC 20510–6250

March 13, 2017

The Honorable Ron Johnson
Chairman
Committee on Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs
U.S. Senate
340 Dirksen Senator Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I am writing in reference to the letter to you dated February 17, 2017, from all the Democratic Members of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee requesting that the Committee investigate and hold hearings on Russia's attempts to infiltrate and influence the U.S. presidential election by attacking the nation's election infrastructure.

As one step towards examining Russian efforts to access elements of multiple US state or local electoral boards, ¹ I sent the enclosed letter to Department of Homeland Security Secretary Kelly asking for information concerning the Department's recent designation of election infrastructure as a critical infrastructure subsector. Secretary Kelly's answers and any materials provided by the Department will enhance the Committee's oversight of this matter and help inform any future hearing.

As you know, ensuring that our elections are free, fair and secure is paramount. We must investigate Russia's interference in the 2016 election to prevent an attack of this nature from happening again. I urge you to consider the Democratic Members' request, and hope that you will join in future, bipartisan oversight of this threat to our national security.

Sincerely,

Claire McCaskill Ranking Member Cashill

Enclosures

¹ Office of the Director of National Intelligence, Assessing Russian Activities and Intentions in Recent US Elections: The Analytic Process and Cyber Incident Attribution (Jan. 6, 2017).