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July 13, 2010

The Honorable Joseph I. Lieberman
Chairman
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Susan M. Collins
Ranking Member
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thomas R. Carper
Chairman
Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government
Information, Federal Services, and International Security
Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Lieberman, Ranking Member Collins, and Chairman Carper:

I am writing to express SAP's appreciation for your demonstrated leadership in introducing the *Protecting Cyberspace as a National Asset Act of 2010* (S. 3480) to address the serious cybersecurity and critical information infrastructure protection issues that challenge our nation. This legislation focuses much-needed attention on the coordination of government responsibilities in this area, and at the same time, it seeks to promote government-industry partnership in developing workable, risk-based solutions to address a dynamic information technology environment with diverse participants.

In particular, Section 253 establishes a framework for broad collaboration between government and private sector representatives in the development of a supply chain risk management strategy based on mission criticality and cost effectiveness. It seeks to balance numerous competing policy imperatives, including the recognition of industry and international standards, the protection of intellectual property, the identification of risky acquisition practices, the preference for commercial item acquisition from the widest pool of suppliers possible, and the need for threat information exchanges between government and industry. Clearly, calling for the development of a strategy in any endeavor is a leap of faith, but it is equally clear that you have

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made a significant effort to provide a structure to this activity that assures that solutions derive from a timely, effective dialog without undermining the activities of government and the private sector.

As for the balance of the legislation, it sets out numerous other provisions that seek to organize the government's approach to cyberspace, to promote consistent government security management practices, and to grow cybersecurity professionals in the government work force. As challenging as these provisions may be to implement, they are of critical concern to government and the private sector, and it is our hope that collaboration in their implementation will bring their intended outcomes to fruition.

Finally, we would be remiss if we failed to acknowledge the dedication and significant outreach efforts of your respective staffs in this endeavor. Their commitment to surveying the views of industry stakeholders was significant and appreciated greatly.

We recognize that this legislation will undergo review and revision as it makes its way through the legislative process. Please know that we support this effort and look forward to continuing to work with you and your staffs as the bill advances.

Sincerely,



Robert C. Cresanti

Vice President

SAP Government Relations