April 23, 2012

The Honorable Mike Rogers  
Chairman  
Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence  
Capitol Visitor Center HVC-304  
U.S. Capitol Building  
Washington, DC 20515-6415

The Honorable C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger  
Ranking Member  
Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence  
Capitol Visitor Center HVC-304  
U.S. Capitol Building  
Washington, DC 20515-6415

To Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Ruppersberger:

We all have a stake in a more secure cyberspace. Many of us believe that information sharing between the Federal government and the private sector, with constitutional safeguards, could certainly foster greater cybersecurity. However, we are troubled that H.R. 3523, the “Cyber Intelligence Sharing and Protection Act of 2011” (CISPA), which will be considered by the House of Representatives later this week, does not include necessary safeguards. In particular, the broadness and ambiguous language of CISPA raise serious concerns about:

- Determining what information relating to Internet activity will be shared;
- Deciding who in the Federal government – including the Intelligence Community – will access this information; and
- The purpose and manner in which that information will be used.

Without specific limitations, CISPA would, for the first time, grant non-civilian Federal agencies, such as the National Security Agency, unfettered access to information about Americans’ Internet activities and allow those agencies to use that information for virtually any purpose.

We understand that you are preparing a forthcoming Manager’s Amendment to CISPA that the Full House could consider on Thursday or Friday. As you work to develop your Manager’s Amendment, we urge you to address the real and serious privacy concerns voiced by not just your colleagues in the House and privacy advocacy groups but also Americans who work and play on the Internet. Information sharing cannot come at the expense of the constitutional rights of our constituents.

Sincerely,

[Signatures]