

SIIA Welcomes a Dialogue on Government Access to Information

For Immediate Release:

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Washington D.C. (February 29, 2016) – The head of public policy for the [Software & Information Industry Association \(SIIA\)](#), the principal association representing the software and digital content industries, today responded to bi-partisan legislation introduced by Representative Michael McCaul (R-TX) and Senator Mark Warner (D-VA).

Mark MacCarthy, SIIA’s Senior Vice President of Public Policy, issued the following statement:

“SIIA welcomes a process that leads to a balanced, reasonable dialogue between technologists, security experts, industry representatives, law enforcement and national security leaders. Strong encryption is essential for privacy, data security, and global commerce. Law enforcement access to information under appropriate due process is a common and well understood practice in the technology industry, and it is critical to keeping the public safe. But the issues here are complex, and we face the very real danger that overly broad access to secure systems could undermine the very safety and security we seek.

“The significant risk associated with this issue demands a thoughtful and deliberate response. Without a thorough and informed examination of the threats, Congress must avoid legislating new technology requirements – requirements that could ultimately harm national security more than help.”

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About SIIA

SIIA is an umbrella association representing 800+ technology, data and media companies globally. Industry leaders work through SIIA’s divisions to address issues and challenges that impact their industry segments with the goal of driving innovation and growth for the industry and each member company. This is accomplished through in-person and online business development opportunities, peer networking, corporate education, intellectual property protection and government relations. For more information, visit sii.net.