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## United States Senate

March 2, 2015

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Harry Reid  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Leader McConnell and Leader Reid,

Earlier this month, the Indianapolis-based health insurance company Anthem announced that malicious software had been used to compromise the security credentials of several employees, resulting in the largest data breach of a health care company in the nation's history. The breach allowed hackers access to Anthem databases that included customers' names and personal information. As you know, the Anthem attack is just one in a series of recent cyber attacks targeting the private sector. Over the last year, retail stores such as Target and Home Depot have been victims of similar cyber attacks, and a data breach of JP Morgan Chase compromised the accounts of 76 million households and seven million small businesses.

These attacks are becoming more common and are increasingly sophisticated. Last Congress we responded by passing legislation to help facilitate public-private cybersecurity information sharing, allow for the development of voluntary, collaborative, industry-led standards and practices to reduce cyber risks to critical infrastructure, and authorize increased federal cybersecurity research and development. However, there is much more to be done. We need to address these threats to our critical infrastructure and data security on all fronts. In addition to ensuring we are on the leading edge of research and development of new cyber capabilities and securing our government information systems, we must continue to work with the private sector to find a path forward that allows American companies to share information and defend their networks from attack, while protecting individual privacy.

In light of recent events and the continued threat of cyber-attacks, I strongly encourage the Senate to work quickly to debate and pass bipartisan legislation designed to ensure that our vital information systems are protected. As such, I respectfully request that you use your leadership to ensure that the 114<sup>th</sup> Congress acts without delay to enact long-term solutions to improve our nation's cybersecurity.

Sincerely,



Joe Donnelly  
United States Senator