



November 14, 2016

The Honorable Mitch McConnell  
Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
S-230, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Harry Reid  
Democratic Leader  
U.S. Senate  
S-221, The Capitol  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ron Johnson  
Chairman  
Senate Homeland Security and  
Governmental Affairs Committee  
340 Dirksen Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Thomas Carper  
Ranking Member  
Senate Homeland Security and  
Governmental Affairs Committee  
442 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

**Re: The Modernizing Government Technology Act of 2016 (MGT Act)**

Dear Majority Leader McConnell, Chairman Johnson, Democratic Leader Reid and Ranking Member Carper:

On behalf of the member companies of the Information Technology Alliance for Public Sector (ITAPS),<sup>1</sup> I am writing to express our **strong** support for the Modernizing Government Technology (MGT) Act of 2016 (H.R. 6004). This bipartisan legislation would reform the way we fund and modernize information technology (IT) solutions and permit government IT to better keep pace with innovation. We believe that the bill creates the opportunity for agencies to effectively fund their needs for cloud computing, IT modernization, cybersecurity and future IT development. We **urge** the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee to mark up the legislation and advance it for final passage before the Chamber adjourns for this Congress.

ITAPS has long advocated for greater flexibility in funding solutions that enable agencies to make timely IT investments. Federal agencies spend approximately 80 percent of their total IT budget on maintaining legacy IT systems. Because of strict funding cycles that inhibit agencies from procuring the latest innovations that could help them meet mission needs, our government is beholden to generations-old technology. It is imperative that the Senate pass the MGT Act because it creates new options outside of the funding cycle for IT investment and offers ways to make dollars available to agencies when they are ready to invest. By doing so, agencies can adopt innovative technologies that will lead to better constituent services, deliver greater efficiencies for the taxpayer and enable greater capabilities and technological advantages for fulfilling the government mission.

ITAPS and its member companies are committed to continue working with Congress to perfect this language as it moves through the legislative process. Specifically, we wish to ensure that, as part of the agency Working Capital Funds, the discretion of agency chief information officers in IT investment

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<sup>1</sup> **About ITAPS.** ITAPS, a division of the Information Technology Industry Council (ITI), is an alliance of leading technology [companies](#) building and integrating the latest innovative technologies for the public sector market. With a focus on the federal, state, and local levels of government, as well as on educational institutions, ITAPS advocates for improved procurement policies and practices, while identifying business development opportunities and sharing market intelligence with our industry participants. Visit [itaps.iti.org](http://itaps.iti.org) to learn more. Follow us on Twitter [@ITAlliancePS](#).

decisions is not diluted, and that incentives for participation in both funding options are not undermined or eroded by coupling repayment requirements in the IT Modernization Fund with savings deposited into the agency Working Capital Funds.

We look forward to working with you further as the bill advances. Should you have any questions, please contact Pam Walker at [pwalker@itic.org](mailto:pwalker@itic.org) or 202-626-5725.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "A.R. Hodgkins, III". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first letters of the first and last names being capitalized and prominent.

A.R. "Trey" Hodgkins, III, CAE  
Senior Vice President, Public Sector

Cc: Members of the U.S. Senate