

April 28, 2014

The Honorable Darrell Issa
Chairman
House Oversight & Government Reform
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Elijah Cummings
House Oversight & Government Reform
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Re: S. 994 The Digital Accountability and Transparency Act

Dear Chairman Issa and Representative Cummings:

The IT Alliance for Public Sector (ITAPS)¹, a division of ITI, applauds you and your co-sponsors for bringing the Digital Accountability and Transparency (DATA) Act (S. 994) back to the House floor for final passage. The DATA Act is arguably the most transformative piece of federal open data legislation since the Freedom of Information Act of 1996, establishing government-wide financial data standards and aligning them with the President's Open Data Policy, and we support the legislation as it moves to the White House.

This version of the bill is a testament to the fact that a multitude of stakeholder groups including the private sector, the administration, and the sponsors and advocates in the Senate, all worked with one another to create a plan for transforming federal financial data. We believe the new phased approach to improving data automation, standardization, and publication is the best way for agencies to be able to properly implement the legislation and we look forward to working with the Office of Management and Budget, the U.S. Treasury, and the other agencies as they begin to execute the new standards.

Thank you again for the opportunity to engage with you as the bill developed over the past few years. We look forward to working with you on future transparency endeavors.

Respectfully submitted,



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

Cc: U.S. House of Representatives

¹ The Information Technology Alliance for Public Sector (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.itic.org to learn more.