

November 8, 2023

The Honorable Chris Murphy
Chairman, Subcommittee on Homeland Security
Senate Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Katie Britt
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Homeland Security
Senate Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Dave Joyce
Chairman, Subcommittee on Homeland Security
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Henry Cuellar
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Homeland Security
House Appropriations Committee
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chair Murray, Chairwoman Granger, Vice Chair Collins, and Ranking Member DeLauro:

We are a bipartisan cross-section of industry leaders, including former government officials, with significant national security, technology, critical infrastructure, and cybersecurity responsibilities who have worked with the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) and the Department of Homeland Security since their inception. We write today in our respective personal capacities to express our strong support for CISA and our concerns regarding proposed Fiscal Year 2024 (FY 2024) cuts to this critical national security agency.

As you know, CISA leads our national cybersecurity and critical infrastructure security efforts – an essential role responsible for countering dynamic and rapidly evolving attacks from threat actors like Russia, Iran, North Korea, and China – that regularly attack and breach U.S. Government agencies and critical infrastructures. Cuts to the FY 2024 funding level for CISA would weaken the agency's important network defense efforts and critical infrastructure coordinator responsibilities.

Successful attacks against critical infrastructure have increased substantially in recent years. Organized criminal entities, foreign intelligence services and activist hackers are very real threats and constantly evolving. In the face of a known clear and present danger to the United States, now is the time to bolster our nation's capabilities, not shirk our responsibilities to our citizens.

The U.S. is a cyber target and we must not stymie the progress that has been made to secure our most critical national assets. Proposed reductions would slow, if not halt, CISA's efforts to deploy new cyber defense capabilities to keep pace with our adversaries, limit essential information sharing between CISA and the public, and stall efforts to grow the cybersecurity talent pipeline. In addition, such reductions would limit our collective ability to detect and coordinate responses to major cyber vulnerabilities and breaches before they have devastating impacts on the US economy or critical services that Americans rely on, such as clean drinking water, electricity, or the internet.

Historically, Congress has always prioritized investments in our military and in protecting the physical security of our nation. Our cybersecurity readiness deserves the same commitment.

Cybersecurity has historically maintained strong bipartisan support. We respectfully request that the House and Senate Appropriations Committees continue to prioritize robust cybersecurity funding to ensure CISA has the resources and capabilities to meet the cyber threats of today while securing against those of tomorrow. For additional information, please contact govaffairs@tenable.com.

Sincerely,

Amit Yoran
Chairman & CEO, Tenable

Brad Arkin
Senior Vice President, Chief Security and Trust Officer, Cisco Systems, Inc.

Nikesh Arora
CEO and Chairman, Palo Alto Networks

Joseph Burkard
Director, Security Program & Privacy, Protiviti

Art Coviello
Managing Partner, SYN Ventures

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Jason Dewez
Chief Information Security Officer, Fiserv

Ron Green
Chief Security Officer, Mastercard

Niloo Razi Howe
Managing Partner, Razi Ventures

Esmond Kane
Chief Information Security Officer, Healthcare

George Kurtz
CEO & Co-Founder, CrowdStrike

Nate Lesser
Vice President & Chief Information Security Officer, Children's National Hospital

Christopher Lukas
Chief Information Security Officer, Chevron

Barry Mainz
CEO, Forescout Technologies Inc.

Mark McClain
CEO and Founder, SailPoint

Stuart McClure
CEO, Qwint

Jim Nelms
Chief Information Security Officer, Smithfield Foods

Gary Owen
Chief Information Security Officer, iCapital

Bryan Palma
CEO, Trellix

Alex Tosheff
Chief Security Officer, VMware

Rick Vadgama
Chief Information Security Officer, TripAdvisor

Mark Weatherford
Chief Strategy Officer at the National Cybersecurity Center and former Deputy Under Secretary for Cybersecurity at DHS

Jason Witty
Chief Security Officer, USAA

cc: The Honorable Patty Murray, Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Susan Collins, Vice Chair, Senate Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Kay Granger, Chairwoman, House Appropriations Committee
The Honorable Rosa DeLauro, Ranking Member, House Appropriations Committee

Signatures added after November 8, 2023, in order received

Daniel Wood
Chief Information Security Officer, Unqork

Kerry Kilker
Chief Information Security Officer, Cyderes

Jeremy Turner
Head of Cyber and Risk, Cogility Software

Muli Motola
Co-Founder and CEO, AcSense

Saul Garcia
CEO and Founder, Mass Data

Alfredo Hickman
Acting Chief Information Security Officer, Obsidian Security

Sarah Guo
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