

very fundamental human rights and the very freedoms and liberties enshrined in our Constitution.

This bill will finally grant federal recognition to the Chickahominy Tribe, the Eastern Chickahominy Tribe, the Upper Mattaponi Tribe, the Rappahannock Tribe, the Monacan Indian Nation, and the Nansemond Tribe.

Federal recognition of Virginia's Indian Tribes will promote tribal economic development and allow Virginia's tribes to flourish culturally. Federal recognition, a process that has been ongoing for these tribes for over 30 years, will lead to a bright future for a whole new generation of tribe members.

Mr. Speaker, I was a member of the Virginia General Assembly in 1983 when many of these tribes first gained formal recognition from the Commonwealth of Virginia, and I am proud to be here today supporting federal recognition for these tribes.

The time has come for this Congress to act, and I therefore urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. McEACHIN. Mr. Speaker, earlier today, I spoke during debate on H.R. 984, the Thomasina E. Jordan Indian Tribes of Virginia Federal Recognition Act of 2017.

I rise, 410 years after the first English settlers landed in what became Jamestown, Virginia, to finally grant federal recognition to some of the Native American tribes who met those early settlers.

Today, with passage of H.R. 984, we are recognizing the rightful status of Virginia's tribes in our national history.

These six tribes have treaties that predate the United States but because of the systemic destruction of their records, they have been denied federal recognition and the services that come along with it.

We are fixing this injustice by passing H.R. 984.

Federal recognition will provide what the government has long denied—legal protections and financial obligations.

Federal recognition will provide financial assistance for the tribes' social services, health care and housing needs, educational opportunities, and repatriation of the remains of their ancestors in a respectful manner. These opportunities will allow Virginia's tribes to flourish culturally and economically. These opportunities will lead to a better, brighter future for the next generation.

Federal recognition is an issue I have cared about deeply since my time in the Virginia General Assembly and I am a proud cosponsor this legislation.

We have waited too long to recognize Virginia's tribes. I urge my colleagues to support passage.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WITTMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 984.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

MODERNIZING GOVERNMENT TECHNOLOGY ACT OF 2017

Mr. HURD. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 2227) to modernize Government information technology, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 2227

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Modernizing Government Technology Act of 2017" or the "MGT Act".

SEC. 2. FINDINGS; PURPOSES.

(a) FINDINGS.—The Congress finds the following:

(1) The Federal Government spends nearly 75 percent of its annual information technology funding on operating and maintaining existing legacy information technology systems. These systems can pose operational risks, including rising costs and inability to meet mission requirements. These systems also pose security risks, including the inability to use current security best practices, such as data encryption and multi-factor authentication, making these systems particularly vulnerable to malicious cyber activity.

(2) In 2015, the Government Accountability Office (GAO) designated Improving the Management of IT Acquisitions and Operations to its biannual High Risk List and identified as a particular concern the increasing level of information technology spending on operations and maintenance, making less funding available for development or modernization. The GAO also found the Government has spent billions on failed and poorly performing information technology investments due to a lack of effective oversight.

(3) The Federal Government must modernize Federal IT systems to mitigate existing operational and security risks.

(4) The efficiencies, cost savings, and greater computing power offered by modernized solutions, such as cloud computing, have the potential to—

(A) eliminate inappropriate duplication and reduce costs;

(B) address the critical need for cybersecurity by design; and

(C) move the Federal Government into a broad, digital-services delivery model that will transform the ability of the Federal Government to meet mission requirements and deliver services to the American people.

(b) PURPOSES.—The purposes of this Act are the following:

(1) Assist the Federal Government in modernizing Federal information technology to mitigate current operational and security risks.

(2) Incentivize cost savings in Federal information technology through modernization.

(3) Accelerate the acquisition and deployment of modernized information technology solutions, such as cloud computing, by addressing impediments in the areas of funding, development, and acquisition practices.

SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF AGENCY INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEMS MODERNIZATION AND WORKING CAPITAL FUNDS.

(a) INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEM MODERNIZATION AND WORKING CAPITAL FUNDS.—

(1) ESTABLISHMENT.—The head of a covered agency may establish within such agency an information technology system modernization and working capital fund (in this section referred to as the "IT working capital

fund") for necessary expenses described in paragraph (3).

(2) SOURCE OF FUNDS.—The following amounts may be deposited into an IT working capital fund:

(A) Reprogramming and transfer of funds made available in appropriations Acts subsequent to the date of the enactment of this Act, including transfer of any funds for the operation and maintenance of legacy information technology systems, in compliance with any applicable reprogramming law or guidelines of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate.

(B) Amounts made available to the IT working capital fund through discretionary appropriations made available subsequent to the date of the enactment of this Act.

(3) USE OF FUNDS.—An IT working capital fund established under paragraph (1) may be used, subject to the availability of appropriations, only for the following:

(A) To improve, retire, or replace existing information technology systems in the covered agency to enhance cybersecurity and to improve efficiency and effectiveness.

(B) To transition legacy information technology systems at the covered agency to cloud computing and other innovative platforms and technologies, including those serving more than one covered agency with common requirements.

(C) To assist and support covered agency efforts to provide adequate, risk-based, and cost-effective information technology capabilities that address evolving threats to information security.

(D) To reimburse funds transferred to the covered agency from the Technology Modernization Fund established under section 4, with the approval of the Chief Information Officer of the covered agency.

(4) EXISTING FUNDS.—An IT working capital fund may not be used to supplant funds provided for the operation and maintenance of any system within an appropriation for the covered agency at the time of establishment of the IT working capital fund.

(5) PRIORITIZATION OF FUNDS.—The head of each covered agency shall prioritize funds within the IT working capital fund to be used initially for cost savings activities approved by the Chief Information Officer of the covered agency, in consultation with the Administrator of the Office of Electronic Government. The head of each covered agency may reprogram and transfer any amounts saved as a direct result of such activities for deposit into the applicable IT working capital fund, consistent with paragraph (2)(A).

(6) RETURN OF FUNDS.—Any funds deposited into an IT working capital fund shall be available for obligation for three years after the last day of the fiscal year in which such funds were deposited.

(7) AGENCY CIO RESPONSIBILITIES.—In evaluating projects to be funded from the IT working capital fund, the Chief Information Officer of the covered agency shall consider, to the extent applicable, guidance issued pursuant to section 4(a)(1) to evaluate applications for funding from the Technology Modernization Fund established under that section that include factors such as a strong business case, technical design, procurement strategy (including adequate use of incremental software development practices), and program management.

(b) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, and every six months thereafter, the head of each covered agency shall submit to the Director the following, with respect to the IT working capital fund for the covered agency:

(A) A list of each information technology investment funded with estimated cost and completion date for each such investment.

(B) A summary by fiscal year of obligations, expenditures, and unused balances.

(2) **PUBLIC AVAILABILITY.**—The Director shall make the information submitted under paragraph (1) publicly available on a website.

(c) **COVERED AGENCY DEFINED.**—In this section, the term “covered agency” means each agency listed in section 901(b) of title 31, United States Code.

SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF TECHNOLOGY MODERNIZATION FUND AND BOARD.

(a) **TECHNOLOGY MODERNIZATION FUND.**—

(1) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is established in the Treasury a Technology Modernization Fund (in this section referred to as the “Fund”) for technology-related activities, to improve information technology, to enhance cybersecurity across the Federal Government, and to be administered in accordance with guidance issued by the Director.

(2) **ADMINISTRATION OF FUND.**—The Commissioner of the Technology Transformation Service of the General Services Administration, in consultation with the Chief Information Officers Council and with the approval of the Director, shall administer the Fund in accordance with this subsection.

(3) **USE OF FUNDS.**—The Commissioner shall, in accordance with the recommendations of the Technology Modernization Board established under subsection (b), use amounts in the Fund for the following purposes:

(A) To transfer such amounts, to remain available until expended, to the head of an agency to improve, retire, or replace existing Federal information technology systems to enhance cybersecurity and improve efficiency and effectiveness.

(B) For the development, operation, and procurement of information technology products, services, and acquisition vehicles for use by agencies to improve Government-wide efficiency and cybersecurity in accordance with the requirements of such agencies.

(C) To provide services or work performed in support of the activities described under subparagraph (A) or (B).

(4) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS; CREDITS; AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.**—

(A) **AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.**—There is authorized to be appropriated to the Fund \$250,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2018 and 2019.

(B) **CREDITS.**—In addition to any funds otherwise appropriated, the Fund shall be credited with all reimbursements, advances, or refunds or recoveries relating to information technology or services provided through the Fund.

(C) **AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.**—Amounts deposited, credited, or otherwise made available to the Fund shall be available, as provided in appropriations Acts, until expended for the purposes described in paragraph (3).

(5) **REIMBURSEMENT.**—

(A) **PAYMENT BY AGENCY.**—For a product or service developed under paragraph (3)(B), including any services or work performed in support of such development under paragraph (3)(C), the head of an agency that uses such product or service shall pay an amount fixed by the Commissioner in accordance with this paragraph.

(B) **REIMBURSEMENT BY AGENCY.**—The head of an agency shall reimburse the Fund for any transfer made under paragraph (3)(A), including any services or work performed in support of such transfer under paragraph (3)(C), in accordance with the terms established in a written agreement described in paragraph (6). Notwithstanding any other provision of law, an agency may make a reimbursement required by this subparagraph from any appropriation made available sub-

sequent to the date of the enactment of this Act for information technology activities, consistent with any applicable reprogramming law or guidelines of the Committees on Appropriations of the House of Representatives and the Senate. An obligation to make a payment under a written agreement described in paragraph (6) in a fiscal year after the date of the enactment of this Act shall be recorded pursuant to section 1501 of title 31, United States Code, in the fiscal year in which the payment is due.

(C) **PRICES FIXED BY COMMISSIONER.**—The Commissioner, in consultation with the Director, shall establish amounts to be paid by an agency and terms of repayment for use of a product or service developed under paragraph (3)(B), including any services or work performed in support of such development under paragraph (3)(C), at levels sufficient to ensure the solvency of the Fund, including operating expenses. Before making any changes to the established amounts and terms of repayment, the Commissioner shall conduct a review and obtain approval from the Director.

(D) **FAILURE TO MAKE TIMELY REIMBURSEMENT.**—The Commissioner may obtain reimbursement by the issuance of transfer and counterwarrants, or other lawful transfer documents, supported by itemized bills, if payment is not made by an agency—

(i) within 90 days after the expiration of a repayment period described in a written agreement described in paragraph (6); or

(ii) within 45 days after the expiration of the time period to make a payment under a payment schedule for a product or service developed under paragraph (3)(B).

(6) **WRITTEN AGREEMENT.**—

(A) **IN GENERAL.**—Before the transfer of funds to an agency under paragraph (3)(A), the Commissioner (in consultation with the Director) and the head of the requisitioning agency shall enter into a written agreement documenting the purpose for which the funds will be used and the terms of repayment, which may not exceed five years unless approved by the Director. An agreement made pursuant to this subparagraph shall be recorded as an obligation as provided in paragraph (5)(B).

(B) **REQUIREMENT FOR USE OF INCREMENTAL DEVELOPMENT PRACTICES.**—For any funds transferred to an agency under paragraph (3)(A), in the absence of compelling circumstances documented by the Commissioner at the time of transfer, such funds shall be transferred only on an incremental basis, tied to metric-based development milestones achieved by the agency, to be described in a written agreement required under subparagraph (A).

(7) **REPORTING REQUIREMENT.**—Not later than six months after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Director shall publish and maintain a list of each project funded by the Fund on a public website, to be updated not less than quarterly, that includes a description of the project, project status (including any schedule delay and cost overruns), and financial expenditure data related to the project.

(b) **TECHNOLOGY MODERNIZATION BOARD.**—

(1) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is established a Technology Modernization Board (in this section referred to as the “Board”) to evaluate proposals submitted by agencies for funding authorized under the Fund.

(2) **RESPONSIBILITIES.**—The responsibilities of the Board are the following:

(A) Provide input to the Director for the development of processes for agencies to submit modernization proposals to the Board and to establish the criteria by which such proposals are evaluated, which shall include addressing the greatest security and operational risks, having the greatest Govern-

mentwide impact, and having a high probability of success based on factors such as a strong business case, technical design, procurement strategy (including adequate use of incremental software development practices), and program management.

(B) Make recommendations to the Commissioner to assist agencies in the further development and refinement of select submitted modernization proposals, based on an initial evaluation performed with the assistance of the Commissioner.

(C) Review and prioritize, with the assistance of the Commissioner and the Director, modernization proposals based on criteria established pursuant to subparagraph (A).

(D) Identify, with the assistance of the Commissioner, opportunities to improve or replace multiple information technology systems with a smaller number of information technology systems common to multiple agencies.

(E) Recommend the funding of modernization projects, in accordance with the uses described in subsection (a)(3), to the Commissioner.

(F) Monitor, in consultation with the Commissioner, progress and performance in executing approved projects and, if necessary, recommend the suspension or termination of funding for projects based on factors such as failure to meet the terms of a written agreement described in subsection (a)(6).

(G) Monitor operating costs of the Fund.

(3) **MEMBERSHIP.**—The Board shall consist of eight voting members.

(4) **CHAIR.**—The Chair of the Board shall be the Administrator of the Office of Electronic Government.

(5) **PERMANENT MEMBERS.**—The permanent members of the Board shall be the following:

(A) The Administrator of the Office of Electronic Government.

(B) A senior official from the General Services Administration having technical expertise in information technology development, appointed by the Administrator of General Services, with the approval of the Director.

(6) **ADDITIONAL MEMBERS OF THE BOARD.**—

(A) **APPOINTMENT.**—The other members of the Board shall be appointed as follows:

(i) One employee of the National Protection and Programs Directorate of the Department of Homeland Security, appointed by the Secretary of Homeland Security.

(ii) One employee of the Department of Defense, appointed by the Secretary of Defense.

(iii) Four Federal employees primarily having technical expertise in information technology development, financial management, cybersecurity and privacy, and acquisition, appointed by the Director.

(B) **TERM.**—Each member of the Board described in paragraph (A) shall serve a term of one year, which shall be renewable up to three times, at the discretion of the appointing Secretary or Director, as applicable.

(7) **PROHIBITION ON COMPENSATION.**—Members of the Board may not receive additional pay, allowances, or benefits by reason of their service on the Board.

(8) **STAFF.**—Upon request of the Chair of the Board, the Director and the Administrator of General Services may detail, on a nonreimbursable basis, any of the personnel of the Office of Management and Budget or the General Services Administration (as the case may be) to the Board to assist the Board in carrying out its functions under this Act.

(c) **RESPONSIBILITIES OF COMMISSIONER.**—

(1) **IN GENERAL.**—In addition to the responsibilities described in subsection (a), the Commissioner shall support the activities of the Board and provide technical support to, and, with the concurrence of the Director, oversight of, agencies that receive transfers from the Fund.

(2) RESPONSIBILITIES.—The responsibilities of the Commissioner are the following:

(A) Provide direct technical support in the form of personnel services or otherwise to agencies transferred amounts under subsection (a)(3)(A) and for products, services, and acquisition vehicles funded under subsection (a)(3)(B).

(B) Assist the Board with the evaluation, prioritization, and development of agency modernization proposals.

(C) Perform regular project oversight and monitoring of approved agency modernization projects, in consultation with the Board and the Director, to increase the likelihood of successful implementation and reduce waste.

(D) Provide the Director with information necessary to meet the requirements of subsection (a)(7).

(d) AGENCY DEFINED.—In this section, the term “agency” has the meaning given that term in section 551 of title 5, United States Code.

SEC. 5. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:

(1) CLOUD COMPUTING.—The term “cloud computing” has the meaning given that term by the National Institute of Standards and Technology in NIST Special Publication 800-145 and any amendatory or superseding document thereto.

(2) COMMISSIONER.—The term “Commissioner” means the Commissioner of the Technology Transformation Service of the General Services Administration.

(3) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means the Director of the Office of Management and Budget.

(4) INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY.—The term “information technology” has the meaning given that term in section 3502 of title 44, United States Code.

(5) LEGACY INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY SYSTEM.—The term “legacy information technology system” means an outdated or obsolete system of information technology.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HURD) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Texas.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. HURD. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Texas?

There was no objection.

Mr. HURD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I rise today in support of my bill, H.R. 2227, the Modernizing Government Technology Act, or the MGT Act.

Each year, the Federal Government spends over \$80 billion a year on information technology, with nearly 75 percent of that directed just towards operating and maintaining existing IT systems. Couple this with innovation and management strategies that are decades behind the private sector when it comes to IT, and the increasing cost of maintaining these aging and insecure systems, this is unsustainable.

These systems pose increasing operational and security risks for the Fed-

eral Government, as we saw with the devastating OPM data breach, which impacted over 20 million people.

As we see cybersecurity attacks on the rise across the globe, it is imperative that we modernize and protect our information technology systems. The American people deserve better from their government, especially on an issue that is completely solvable. Our government needs to be able to introduce cutting-edge technology into their networks to improve operational efficiency and decrease operational cost.

This bipartisan IT reform package is designed to reduce wasteful IT spending and strengthen information security by accelerating the Federal Government's transition to modern technology, like cloud computing. This legislation is an innovative solution and a tremendous step forward in strengthening our digital infrastructure.

This bill passed the House on voice vote last year and passed out of the House Oversight and Government Reform Committee by voice this year. Unfortunately, we ran out of time on this bill last Congress with the Senate, but we have an opportunity to act this year with an improved bill.

H.R. 2227 authorizes two types of funds to modernize legacy IT and incentivize IT savings in Federal agencies. The bill authorizes funds within individual CFO Act agencies, and it authorizes a centralized fund located within Treasury and overseen by OMB. The two funds will incentivize IT savings and reward cost-sensitive and responsible chief information officers.

Under MGT, savings obtained by Federal agencies, by doing things like streamlining IT systems, replacing legacy products, and transitioning to cloud computing, can be placed in a working capital fund that can be accessed for up to 3 years for further modernization efforts.

This approach eliminates the traditional use-it-or-lose-it approach that has plagued government technology for decades. This approach to technology investments will transform government technology by keeping our information and digital infrastructure secure from cyber attacks while saving billions of taxpayer dollars.

This important bill has enjoyed widespread support from colleagues in the House and the Senate.

Mr. Speaker, I thank the ranking member, the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. KELLY), my friend, for her support on this. I thank the gentleman from the Commonwealth of Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) for all he has done. I especially thank Chairman CHAFFETZ and Ranking Member CUMMINGS for their support.

The majority leader, KEVIN MCCARTHY, and the minority whip, STENY HOYER, have been vital to the success of getting this bill moving forward.

I thank all of the other Members as well who have provided support and leadership for the MGT Act.

Mr. Speaker, I include in the RECORD letters of support from a number of industry and trade groups in support of this bill.

PROFESSIONAL SERVICES COUNCIL,
Arlington, VA, April 27, 2017.

Hon. JERRY MORAN,
U.S. Senator, Washington, DC.

Hon. WILL HURD,
Chairman, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Subcommittee on Information Technology, Washington, DC.

Hon. TOM UDALL,
U.S. Senator, Washington, DC.

Hon. GERRY CONNOLLY,
Ranking Member, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, Subcommittee on Government Operations, Washington, DC.

DEAR SENATORS MORAN AND UDALL, CHAIRMAN HURD AND RANKING MEMBER CONNOLLY: On behalf of the over 400 member companies of the Professional Services Council (PSC), I write to convey our association's strong support for your legislation, the Modernizing Government Technology Act of 2017 (the “MGT Act”), and to thank you for your continued leadership to advance policies that will upgrade the government's legacy IT systems.

The MGT Act would establish a critical source of dependable funding for federal agencies to invest in IT system modernization, incentivize agencies to utilize the funds for agency priorities, and accelerate the transition to the cloud.

PSC supports the Act because we believe the bill will help make government more effective and its networks more secure, while reducing overall costs. Enactment would be a much-needed and critical step to begin addressing the immense challenges associated with upgrading federal information technology systems and limiting cybersecurity vulnerabilities inherent in the government's outdated computer systems.

PSC looks forward to working with you to see this legislation enacted. Thank you for your leadership and attention to this important issue. If you or your colleagues have any questions or need additional information, please do not hesitate to reach out to me.

Yours Respectfully,

DAVID J. BERTEAU,
President and CEO.

IT ALLIANCE

FOR PUBLIC SECTOR,

Washington, DC, April 28, 2017.

Re The Modernizing Government Technology Act of 2017 (MGT Act).

Hon. WILL HURD,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Information Technology, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBIN KELLY,
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Information Technology, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN HURD AND RANKING MEMBER KELLY: On behalf of the member companies of the Information Technology Alliance for Public Sector (ITAPS), I am writing to express our strong support for the Modernizing Government Technology (MGT) Act of 2017. We appreciate all the time, effort, and commitment you have dedicated to reforming how the federal government funds and invests in information technology (IT). This bipartisan, bicameral legislation would enable new means to fund IT solutions, including for IT modernization efforts, and provide

funding availability to permit government IT to better keep pace with innovation. We commend your staffs for collaborating and working with ITAPS and our members.

The time is ripe to transform the way the federal government acquires IT, and this bipartisan legislation is a substantial step toward that transformation. The federal government today spends about \$60 billion dollars annually sustaining their existing IT and their funding streams allow them to either continue to sustain those systems or modernize, but they do not have the funding to do both at the same time. The MGT Act creates the necessary new options for agencies to be able to sustain what is necessary for their mission, while investing in modernizing and transforming IT capabilities in the federal government for the digital era.

Again, thank you for the engagement you and your staff afforded ITAPS and our members. We look forward to continuing to work with you further as the bill advances through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

A.R. "TREY" HODGKINS, III, CAE,
Senior Vice President, Public Sector.

Adobe applauds Congressman Will Hurd (Texas) for reintroducing the Modernizing Government Technology Act, H.R. 2227, and urges Congress to move quickly to enact this important piece of legislation. Modernizing the federal IT infrastructure is crucial to ensuring a stronger cyber security foundation. The federal government on average spends nearly 80 percent of its IT budget on servicing and maintaining legacy IT systems, drowning out investments in newer technologies that often deliver better, more secure and less costly services to citizens.—Adobe VP & Public Sector Chief Technology Officer John Landwehr

AMAZON WEB SERVICES,
Herndon, VA, April 28, 2017.

Re Support for H.R. 2227, the Modernizing Government Technology Act.

Hon. WILL HURD,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBIN KELLY,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. GERRY CONNOLLY,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. JERRY MORAN,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

Hon. TOM UDALL,
U.S. Senate,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN HURD, CONGRESSWOMAN KELLY, CONGRESSMAN CONNOLLY, SENATOR UDALL, AND SENATOR MORAN: On behalf of our customers, we applaud your leadership and commitment to transforming federal information technology (IT) through the Modernizing Government Technology Act (MGT Act), H.R. 2227. At Amazon Web Services, we believe in putting our customers first by giving them the right tools to enable success, and similarly this bipartisan and bicameral legislation gives our customers the funding mechanisms they need to move to more modern and secure federal IT systems and services.

The MGT Act allows agencies to modernize aging and vulnerable systems and migrate to innovative technologies such as commercial cloud computing. By giving agencies more control over IT investments, the bill creates more strategic, efficient, and common-sense incentives for agency buyers without compromising transparency and oversight. Flexible funding mechanisms like the agency working capital funds in this piece of legisla-

tion enable the adoption of the most secure, cutting-edge commercial technologies that the private sector has long adopted.

The commitment of both Republican and Democrat members in both the House and the Senate on the MGT Act and previous versions of the legislation represents an acknowledgment that Congress must act to improve and secure federal IT. This bill gives the federal government the chance to provide better constituent services that citizens have grown to expect and deserve.

Again, we applaud the introduction of the MGT Act and urge Congress to act this year to pass the legislation.

Sincerely,

STEVE BLOCK,
AWS Public Policy.

BROCADE,
April 27, 2017.

Re Modernizing Government Technology Act of 2017.

Hon. JASON CHAFFETZ,
Chairman, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, House of Representatives.

Hon. WILL HURD,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Information Technology, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, House of Representatives.

Hon. ELIJAH CUMMINGS,
Ranking Member, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, House of Representatives.

Hon. ROBIN KELLY,
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Information Technology, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, House of Representatives.

DEAR CHAIRMAN CHAFFETZ, CHAIRMAN HURD, RANKING MEMBER CUMMINGS AND RANKING MEMBER KELLY: On behalf of Brocade, I am writing in support of the Modernizing Government Technology Act of 2017. This bipartisan bill is an important step forward to accelerate the modernization of federal IT networks. The Modernizing Government Technology Act will provide federal agencies with critical and flexible financing mechanisms to help break the cycle of federal IT investment in outdated technologies. By facilitating federal agency IT modernization, the bills will help agencies improve IT effectiveness, bolster security, reduce maintenance spending and better serve citizens, warfighters and veterans.

As an active partner in federal agency network modernization, Brocade appreciates your leadership in moving this bill forward this year. Brocade is committed to working with other stakeholders to achieve the objectives of the Modernizing Government Technology Act to help agencies transition to modern networks that leverage open standards, multivendor networks, and software-based technologies to achieve their mission.

Sincerely,

JEFF RANGEL,
Senior Director, Corporate Affairs.

CA TECHNOLOGIES,
May 1, 2017.

Hon. WILL HURD,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Information Technology, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

Hon. GERALD CONNOLLY,
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Government Operations, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN HURD AND RANKING MEMBER CONNOLLY: I am writing to express our support for H.R. 2227, the Modernizing Government Technology Act of 2017 (MGT Act). This Act will help address a vital challenge

the Federal government faces in providing better services for its citizens.

According to the Government Accountability Office, the Federal government spends more than 75 percent of its IT budget on operations and maintenance, rather than on expenditures for new technologies. This limits the ability of the government to provide innovative and efficient services to citizens and it puts federal IT infrastructure at risk.

The MGT Act will enable agency officials to acquire and deploy new technologies in ways that will help them provide better services and cost savings to citizens in a more secure fashion.

We want to thank you and your staffs for your tireless work and active engagement with industry on this bill. CA Technologies looks forward to continuing to work with Members of the Committees and with House leadership as this bill moves forward in the legislative process.

With warmest regards,

BRENDAN PETER,
Vice President, Global Government Relations.

[From Ian J. Rayder, Government Affairs,
Cisco]

Cisco supports the important goals of the Modernizing Government Technology Act of 2017, which was introduced with bipartisan support in both the House and the Senate. If passed, the bill will accelerate a pivot away from outmoded legacy systems to modernized solutions, which should cut costs, improve security and boost operational efficiency. The MGTA can help the federal government change the status quo where nearly 80% of IT spending is used to maintain aging, insecure, and expensive legacy federal IT systems. We thank Information Technology Subcommittee Chairman Hurd, Ranking Member Kelly, Government Operations Subcommittee Ranking Member Connolly, and Oversight and Government Reform Chairman Chaffetz for their leadership on this important issue.

COMPUWARE,
MAY 1, 2017.

Hon. WILL HURD,
Washington, DC.

CONGRESSMAN HURD: Compuware, the world's leading mainframe-dedicated software company, is pleased to see the introduction of the Modernizing Government Technology Act of 2017. As you know, we are headquartered in Detroit, Michigan with 99% of our development team onsite. Our innovative mainframe software assist the world's largest banks, insurance companies and retail, transportation and government organizations by enabling them to deliver mainframe-supported products and services more quickly, cost-effectively and with a higher level of quality.

A new generation of Federal IT leaders will soon assume responsibility for guiding the agencies through modernization efforts that meet citizens' increasingly tech-centric demands. Having forged their careers in a period of intensive technological innovation, these leaders are by and large well-prepared to do so and the MGT Act provides a viable funding path to support modernization efforts.

We are encouraged that the MGT Act suggests that an IT modernization plan should pair the right applications with the right platforms. One of the major platforms being modernized is the mainframe. The reality is, a large percentage of the mission-critical applications and systems that run on the mainframe today will remain there for decades to come. Organizations and agencies should build on what works well and continue to leverage the decades of investment in business rules and intellectual property.

Mainframe longevity is no accident. No other computing platform comes close to delivering the performance, scalability, reliability and security of the post-modern mainframe. None offers a lower marginal cost. Nor has any other platform come close to demonstrating a similar ability to adapt to the changes in the world around it decade after decade. The correct course of action is to diligently and smartly leverage a post-modern mainframe for what it does best.

Thank you for the opportunity to submit comments and we look forward to providing additional information for the Committee Report. Compuware is always available to testify.

Sincerely,

CHRIS O'MALLEY,
CEO, Compuware.

CSRA,

Falls Church, VA, April 28, 2017.

Re the Modernizing Government Technology Act of 2017.

Hon. JASON CHAFFETZ,
Chairman, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

Hon. ELLIAH CUMMINGS,
Ranking Member, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

Hon. WILL HURD,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Information Technology, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

Hon. ROBIN KELLY,
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Information Technology, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.

CONGRESSIONAL LEADERS: On behalf of CSRA, I write today to express my strong support for the Modernizing Government Technology Act (MGT Act), which is a shining example of forward-looking leadership from Congress to help move the government into the 21st century. As one of the leading providers of next generation technology to the federal government, CSRA wants to partner in providing solutions that save taxpayer dollars and facilitate a better customer experience for our citizens. The MGT Act is a crucial step forward in creating our shared future of innovation.

Investing in the transformation of aging IT infrastructure, as the MGT Act will do, will help protect networks currently vulnerable to cybersecurity threats and make government more efficient and effective for the American people. We know that investments like these make highest and best use of the taxpayer dollar, saving enormous sums of money down the line. Innovation has long fueled the American economy; technology can now make possible the achievement of national priorities.

I salute Congressman Will Hurd, Congresswoman Robin Kelly, Senator Moran, Senator Udall, and the entire bipartisan, bicameral coalition who have brought us to this moment of opportunity. We urge the support of the entire Congress for this legislation, which is a kick-start in creating a government as dynamic and innovative as America itself.

Sincerely,

LAWRENCE B. PRIOR.

INTEL CORPORATION,
Washington, DC, May 16, 2017.

Hon. WILL HURD,
Washington, DC.

DEAR CONGRESSMAN HURD: Intel Corporation commends your leadership in enabling the Federal Government to upgrade its legacy IT Infrastructure through the Modernizing Government Technology Act of 2017.

Your bill would enable the retirement, replacement, and modernization of legacy IT that is difficult to secure and expensive to maintain. This bill would strengthen the in-

centives and wherewithal of federal agencies and organizations to invest prudently in IT, thereby saving money and increasing the performance of their IT systems.

Intel applauds your bi-partisan, bi-cameral effort aimed at making our government work better for all citizens by providing the means to enable it to keep pace with IT innovation.

Sincerely,

PETER PITSCH,
Executive Director,
Federal Relations.
Associate General
Counsel, Intel Corporation.

MICROSOFT,
Redmond, WA, May 2, 2017.

Rep. WILL HURD,
Chairman, Subcommittee on Information Technology, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

Rep. ROBIN KELLY,
Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Information Technology, Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, House of Representatives, Washington, DC.

DEAR CHAIRMAN HURD AND RANKING MEMBER KELLY: On behalf of Microsoft Corporation, I am writing to congratulate you on introduction of the Modernizing Government Technology Act of 2017 (H.R. 2227). Microsoft fully understands the promise modern technology holds for enabling more efficient and effective results for taxpayers and supports your efforts. We commend you for including in the bill a fund to support IT modernization, as it's critically needed by agencies that need to improve their systems but are unable due to budget constraints.

Microsoft also applauds you for working with the White House Office of American Innovation on this legislation. Having strong bipartisan, bicameral partners, combined with Executive Branch support, demonstrates your commitment to improve the federal information technology procurement process.

We look forward to working with you and your bipartisan colleagues in the House and Senate as the bill moves through the legislative process.

Sincerely,

FREDERICK S. HUMPHRIES, JR.,
Corporate Vice President,
U.S. Government Affairs (USGA).

UNISYS,
April 28, 2017.

Hon. WILL HURD,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

Hon. ROBIN KELLY,
House of Representatives,
Washington, DC.

DEAR REPRESENTATIVES HURD AND KELLY: On behalf of the Unisys Corporation, thank you for introducing the Modernizing Government Technology Act of 2017 (MGT Act). Unisys strongly supports enactment of the MGT Act because it provides needed flexibility and funding resources to enable the Federal Government to modernize its legacy IT systems and leverage government-wide resources to gain efficiencies.

As a global information technology company that provides leading edge security solutions to the government and commercial markets, Unisys recognizes that one of the major challenges facing clients is how to fund modernization investments while maintaining existing mission critical IT systems. The MGT Act addresses this challenge by authorizing new modernization funding mechanisms for Federal agencies that will allow them to build in cyber security by design, effectively share government data, create long-term savings and eliminate duplication.

Thank you again for introducing this much needed legislation.

Sincerely,

VENKATAPATHI PUVVADA,
President, Federal Systems.

LEVEL 3 STATEMENT ON MGT ACT OF 2017

Today, Representatives Will Hurd (R-TX), Robin Kelly (D-IL) and Gerry Connolly (D-VA), and Senators Jerry Moran (R-KS) and Tom Udall (D-NM), introduced the Modernizing Government Technology Act of 2017 to provide federal agencies additional resources and flexibility to modernize outdated information technology systems. Below is a statement from Level 3 Communications:

"Level 3 Communications applauds Representatives Hurd, Kelly and Connolly, and Senators Moran and Udall, for championing federal IT reform and their commitment to maximizing the value of taxpayer dollars by transforming how the government invests in technology. Level 3 stands ready to continue our collaboration with federal agencies to transform their networks to improve efficiency, reduce costs and maximize security."

Mr. HURD. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I thank my friends, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HURD) and the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. KELLY), for their leadership in bringing this bill to the floor.

Of course, I rise in support of the bill, H.R. 2227, the Modernizing Government Technology Act of 2017.

Mr. Speaker, over the past several years, we have all witnessed the chaos and havoc that sophisticated cyber attacks can, and do, wreak on our Nation and around the world.

Just this past week, there was a massive ransomware attack that hit 200,000 victims in 150 countries, and those numbers are expected to grow exponentially. This is just the latest in a string of high-profile attacks, including Sony, Yahoo, the OPM data breach, and even efforts to influence our elections and those in Europe.

These attacks jeopardize America's safety, privacy, and cost untold millions of dollars in the private sector and public sector as well. These attacks affect both the public and private sector, and bad actors repeatedly target our Federal Government. Those attacks often succeed because Federal computer systems are so outdated that they cannot implement network defenses as basic as encryption. Some legacy systems go back a half a century.

The Federal Government spends nearly \$60 billion a year sustaining its existing IT systems. When agencies are forced to spend nearly 80 percent of that to maintain legacy computer systems, they have fewer resources to modernize and reinvest. As a result, agencies cannot afford to invest in the modern technologies that other large enterprises need to survive. Many Federal agencies do not use cloud computing to help secure computer networks and improve our ability to deliver services to the American people.

The MGT Act we are talking about today and on which I am proud to be one of the lead Democratic cosponsors is a critical step to help improve the Federal Government's IT systems. The MGT Act of 2017 will help our cyber defenders protect our most important digital resources.

This bill marries two bills from the previous Congress, both of which I was proud to be an original cosponsor of—the IT Modernization Act and the MOVE IT Act. The MGT Act establishes a clear role for both of these pieces of legislation to improve Federal IT systems.

I was an original cosponsor for Minority Whip STENY HOYER's IT Modernization Act, which created a revolving fund using \$3 billion appropriations for Treasury to replace legacy systems.

I was pleased to join my friend, Ms. KELLY, the ranking member of the Information Technology Subcommittee, and Mr. HURD, on the MOVE IT Act, which revived a proposal first discussed during the consideration of the legislation FITARA, the Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act.

These two bills were different, but complementary, and worked, ultimately, to join the two to create this act in front of us today, the MGT Act. That act lays the foundation for the future of IT modernization funding and reinvestment and investment by the Federal Government long overdue. The act will authorize an upfront investment to retire minimal large-scale legacy systems and affect multiple agencies.

This bipartisan, bicameral legislation will provide mechanisms and much-needed funding for agencies to speed up that slow process of moving from legacy IT systems to cutting-edge, 21st century technologies. It would also provide needed reporting requirements to ensure that agencies are acquiring modern technology and that we can measure that it is being done in a cost-effective way. It places an emphasis on following the practices of private industry and moving toward cloud computing solutions.

The MGT Act language will allow agencies to reinvest those savings, as my friend just indicated, and that is a commonsense proposal, but not one we find commonly in the Federal Government.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the act, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. HURD. Mr. Speaker, I know the gentleman from the Commonwealth of Virginia has a few more speakers, so I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I yield 4 minutes to the gentleman from Maryland (Mr. HOYER), my friend, the distinguished whip on the Democratic side.

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I thank Mr. HURD for his leadership on this issue. I am pleased to work with him on it.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of this bill.

It will not be a controversial bill. It will not make the front page of the paper tomorrow. People will not be seized of this bill passing. But this bill may well have a very great consequence to it and to the efficiency and effectiveness of our Federal Government.

Last July, I outlined a series of reforms to renew America's faith in their government, which included modernizing government technology. Not long after, I introduced the Information Technology Modernization Act to achieve that goal; and, of course, Mr. CONNOLLY was a cosponsor with me on that bill.

I am glad that this bill on the floor today includes my legislation. It would be a major step toward ensuring that our government is using the latest technology systems, is well protected from cyber threats, and can serve the American people more effectively.

□ 1500

Mr. HURD came over to me on the floor and we talked about our two ideas. As the gentleman from Virginia has said, they were complementary, and I am pleased that we could work together to put these bills together and that we now have agreement with the Senate. We passed a bill through the House.

Last week's major global cyber attack was yet another reminder of how critical it is that our government's technology systems are upgraded to the latest and most secure technology. If any lesson was needed, we got it.

Americans count on government agencies to protect their personal data, and our security agencies rely on our government systems to safeguard classified and sensitive information. Unfortunately, our government technology systems are now far behind the latest technology and are in desperate need of upgrades.

I congratulate the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. KELLY) for her work on this effort.

What this legislation does is authorize the creation of a technology modernization fund to finance rapid upgrades of government technology systems similar to funds that are available in the private sector so they can move quickly and seize the best and latest technology available. It would prioritize the systems that are the most vulnerable, and it would implement best practices from the private sector. In other words, those that are working least well will be the first addressed.

Once upgrades are completed, agencies will pay back into the fund from the savings achieved through greater efficiency, i.e., a revolving fund, making it possible then to finance additional projects in a way that is self-sustaining after the initial investment. All of this would be done in a way that is transparent and accountable.

Once this bill is enacted, we must take the next step and provide, of course, that initial funding.

I have been proud to work across the aisle with Majority Leader MCCARTHY, Chairman CHAFFETZ, Mr. HURD, and, of course, my dear, dear friend from Virginia, my colleague in the Washington metropolitan area, Representative CONNOLLY on our side.

Representative KELLY, whom I just mentioned, and Congressman TED LIEU have also been champions of this effort, and I thank them for their input and their strong support as we worked to bring it to the floor in a bipartisan fashion.

Again, I want to say how pleased I am to work on these issues with all of my colleagues, but particularly with the majority leader, Mr. MCCARTHY, my friend from California, and thank him for his leadership.

I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting the Modernizing Government Technology Act, and I hope the Trump administration will include investment to capitalize this new fund in their fiscal 2018 budget.

Mr. HURD. Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to yield 1 minute to the gentleman from California (Mr. MCCARTHY), the distinguished majority leader.

Mr. MCCARTHY. Mr. Speaker, before the minority whip departs, I want to thank him for his work on this. This has really been a bipartisan effort, and it is really putting the country first. The gentleman is correct: This might not make headlines, but this will have a greater effect on our government being more efficient, effective, and accountable. We thank him for his work on it.

Mr. Speaker, there are some things we get used to hearing, but when you think about it, it is amazing just how much things have changed.

I hear a friend say that all of the photos he took on his phone automatically updated to his cloud—not surprising there. But how long ago was it that we couldn't even take pictures on our phone, much less have them saved automatically on a cloud?

Nowadays, it is not uncommon to cash your checks online, manage your accounts on Mint, pay individuals back online. Many millennials don't even carry cash anymore. That is a revolution in money management that just happened in a matter of years.

So, Mr. Speaker, why in the world would the Department of Defense use a 54-year-old system as a backup to send and receive emergency messages for our nuclear forces, a 54-year-old system that relies on floppy disks? Why would the master file of the public's taxes at the IRS run on a 1950s code?

Eighty percent of the \$80 billion we spend each year on IT is used to maintain legacy systems, to buy expensive parts that nobody uses anymore for a 54-year-old system we shouldn't even have.

We would expect more from the private sector. We would expect mobile cameras, cloud computing, online banking. Heck, we would even expect to upgrade our phones and apps and

technology on a rolling basis every single week. Well, why should we expect less from the Federal Government?

I would say this is about more than expectations. We all saw what happened over the weekend with the massive global cyber attack: hospitals shut down, transportation systems. This is a government service issue. It is a government waste issue. It is a national security issue.

Now, government may never be like Silicon Valley, but it should not be stuck in the age of "Mad Men." That is not only costly, it is dangerous.

WILL HURD, an individual that has served his Nation in some of the most dangerous parts of the world, an individual who worked in the private sector when it came to technology, an individual who serves in this body and, I will say this based upon everybody else I have served, probably has the most bipartisan approach of anyone I have ever seen serve in that position—he doesn't care about party. It is just as the time when he worked in the CIA. He cares about his country. He has seen the most deadly things happen, and, through his technology company, he has seen that people fight wars new ways.

So he took it upon himself—it is not the issue that people would campaign upon, but it is an issue that he saw needed a solution. He worked with both sides of the aisle, and he said: Why can't we modernize our own technology?

The Veterans Administration was created in 1921, and if somebody that was a veteran had a problem and a claim, they would write it on a piece of paper. In 1921, on a warm day like today, we would have fans going to try to cool ourselves down. We would rush, after we got done voting, to turn on our radios to see what the news was saying.

Well, the world all changed. We can look at our phones and get the news instantaneously. We got central air to cool ourselves down. And if you have a claim with the VA, lots of times they write it on a piece of paper.

Well, do you know what? That is all going to stop today. That is going to stop because we are going to make a smart investment. We are going to make the Federal Government have the same accountability that we expect in business or anywhere else.

And do you know what will happen? Government will become more effective, more efficient, more accountable, and more transparent.

So I want to tip my hat to both sides of the aisle, and especially to Congressman WILL HURD. He took the leadership, had the tenacity to stay with it and the ability to work with all on, really, the issue that people wouldn't talk about but expect to happen, and he was the right person at the right time to make the push. That is why I support this bill.

Mr. CONNOLLY. May I inquire of the Speaker how much time is left on this side?

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. ROGERS of Kentucky). The gentleman from Virginia has 11½ minutes remaining.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I am happy to yield 5½ minutes to the gentlewoman from Illinois (Ms. KELLY), my good friend.

Ms. KELLY of Illinois. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to support this common-sense, bipartisan bill that updates our woefully outdated IT infrastructure.

I want to say thank you to my good friend and partner on the IT subcommittee, Chairman HURD, for his leadership on this very important measure and to my colleagues who worked so hard on this bill: Chairman CHAFFETZ, Ranking Member CUMMINGS, our House leadership stewards—Democratic Whip HOYER from the majority, Mr. MCCARTHY—and Mr. CONNOLLY of Virginia for his energy and work in dealing with this bill. I also want to give a special thanks to all of the staff and a special shout-out to my staff: Jay Cho and Zach Ostro.

The Modernizing Government Technology Act has come a long way from the early days when it was called MOVE IT. It has been a tough and sometimes frustrating journey, but we have made it, and we have a good bill in front of us.

Last year, the House passed this bill only to have it die in the Senate. Despite these roadblocks, we kept working because it is worth it. This bill will revolutionize and upgrade our outdated IT fractured while bringing cost-saving innovation and greater security to government agencies.

In my years serving as the ranking member of the Oversight Committee's IT Subcommittee, I have learned one thing: We need to get back to basics, and this bill does just that.

Our current use-it-or-lose-it approach to Federal IT just isn't working. It is no secret that Federal agencies are struggling to stay up to date, especially when compared to the private sector.

Each year, we spend \$80 billion in taxpayer dollars to maintain legacy IT systems that are vulnerable to cyber attacks; and each year that we don't upgrade these systems, they become even more difficult and expensive to secure. This is unacceptable and a waste of taxpayer dollars.

For too long, we have kicked the can down the road and left our outdated IT systems vulnerable to costly attacks. The dangers of our system are clear. Every day we are reminded of the importance of having modern IT systems and robust cybersecurity practices in place.

In 2015, hackers made off with the personal information of more than 20 million Americans, including congressional staffers, in the OPM data breach. Just this past week, as you have heard, a global ransomware attack, WannaCry or WannaCrypt, wreaked havoc worldwide, paralyzing businesses and governments alike.

These attacks will only grow more frequent and more difficult to combat.

The MGT Act is a major step in the right direction. It will cut costs and enhance our security. It builds on prior work like Clinger-Cohen and FITARA, and it gives agencies the flexibility needed to modernize vulnerable systems and develop cost savings for taxpayers.

Under this bill, agencies can take the savings from upgrading their systems and reinvest them into their working capital fund for future IT modernization. We are going to go from an outdated method of purchasing IT to one that empowers CIOs to make smart, strategic investments in innovative technologies; and as an end result, our data will be more secure and our government more efficient.

I am proud of this bill, and I am proud of the bipartisan work that made it possible, proud of what we accomplished by working together on the IT Subcommittee.

The MGT Act is a necessary component to strengthening our cybersecurity that saves taxpayers money. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. HURD. Mr. Speaker, I would like to inform my friend from the Commonwealth that I have no further speakers and am prepared to close.

I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

In closing, I think this is an important piece in the information technology modernization effort that our committee and this body has undertaken for the last 5 or 6 years. One of the key pieces of legislation undergirding today's bill is the Federal Information Technology Acquisition Reform Act I was proud to cowrite and coauthor with then-Chairman DARRELL ISSA.

I am equally proud today to have worked with my friend Mr. HURD from Texas, my friend Ms. KELLY from Illinois, and, of course, Mr. STENY HOYER, the Democratic whip, in forging this additional piece that we believe will bring the Federal Government into the 21st century—technologically literate and protecting the databases that protect the American people.

Hundreds of millions of pieces of data are at risk in the current cyber environment, and some simple but critical investments can make all the difference. That is what we are voting for today.

I urge passage of the legislation and, again, congratulate my colleagues and friends for working together in a bipartisan way to bring this bill to fruition.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. HURD. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, we have some young folks in the Chamber right now, and I hope they recognize that this is how their government is supposed to work: people working together, putting their differences past them for the betterment of our great Nation.

It is an honor for me to have this opportunity to do this with so many of my friends that I have grown to love and respect over these last 2 years. And we get to save government money, protect our digital infrastructure, and make sure that our government is providing the kind of services we should and that the American people demand.

Mr. Speaker, I urge adoption of this bill, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LANGEVIN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of the MGT Act and of continued efforts to improve the federal government's cybersecurity posture. I would like to thank Mr. HURD for his tireless efforts advocating for this bill and his partners on the Oversight Committee, Mr. CONNOLLY and Ms. KELLY for their cybersecurity leadership. I also must acknowledge the House's Minority Whip and my good friend, Mr. HOYER, for his work pushing for IT modernization.

The idea for the kind of revolving fund included as part of the MGT Act grew out of President Obama's Cybersecurity National Action Plan, itself issued in direct response to the massive breach of the Office of Personnel Management. OPM was yet another wake up call to the government about the lax attitude toward security present at many agencies, but, to the prior administration's credit, the CNAP contained a number of needed policy shifts, including the creation of a federal Chief Information Security Officer and the use of DHS's authority to conduct a government-wide review of high value assets.

Central to the CNAP, though, was the realization that attempting to secure antiquated federal IT systems was a losing proposition. Just as the Internet—developed in the 1970s—was not created with security in mind, so, too, are many older government systems devoid of even basic security controls. When we think about the fact that the iPhone turns ten next month and the huge improvements that have been made from the first generation model to today's, it's easy to see how systems that are two or three decades old can hamper security.

Using outdated software also compromises efficiency. There's a reason businesses keep up to date with technology—it saves them money. The cleverness of the revolving fund approach is that it uses these savings to drive further upgrades in a virtuous cycle. I hope that the MGT Act is viewed as a pilot program, as there is a lot more technical debt we have incurred than will be solved by \$250 million per year. But it is a very important first step, and I commend the sponsors for their work. And I hope that federal agencies view this bill as license to be innovative in their upgrade planning and to bring us a more efficient—and secure—government.

□ 1515

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Texas (Mr. HURD) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 2227, as amended.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill, as amended, was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

VACATING DEMAND FOR YEAS AND NAYS ON H.R. 984, THOMASINA E. JORDAN INDIAN TRIBES OF VIRGINIA FEDERAL RECOGNITION ACT OF 2017

Mr. WALKER. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the ordering of the yeas and nays on the motion that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 984) to extend Federal recognition to the Chickahominy Indian Tribe, the Chickahominy Indian Tribe—Eastern Division, the Upper Mattaponi Tribe, the Rappahannock Tribe, Inc., the Monacan Indian Nation, and the Nansemond Indian Tribe, be vacated, to the end that the Chair put the question de novo.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. WITTMAN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 984.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

FEDERAL AGENCY MAIL MANAGEMENT ACT OF 2017

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 194) to ensure the effective processing of mail by Federal agencies, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 194

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Federal Agency Mail Management Act of 2017”.

SEC. 2. RECORD MANAGEMENT.

(a) AMENDMENTS.—Section 9 of the Presidential and Federal Records Act Amendments of 2014 (44 U.S.C. 101 note) is amended—

(1) in subsection (a), by amending paragraph (3) to read as follows:

“(3) in paragraph (7), by striking ‘the Administrator or the Archivist’ and inserting ‘the Archivist or the Administrator’.”;

(2) in subsection (c)—

(A) by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

“(1) by amending subsection (a) to read as follows:

“(a) The Archivist shall provide guidance and assistance to Federal agencies with respect to ensuring—

“(1) economical and effective records management;

“(2) adequate and proper documentation of the policies and transactions of the Federal Government; and

“(3) proper records disposition.”;

(B) by redesignating paragraphs (2) and (3) as paragraphs (3) and (4), respectively;

(C) by inserting after paragraph (1), the following new paragraph:

“(2) in subsection (b), by striking ‘effective records management by such agencies’ and

inserting ‘effective processing of mail by Federal agencies’;”;

(D) in paragraph (3), as so redesignated—

(i) in subparagraph (A)(ii), by striking “‘subsections (a) and (b)’” and inserting “‘subsection (a)’”; and

(ii) in subparagraph (B), by striking “; and” and inserting a semicolon;

(E) in paragraph (4), as so redesignated, by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(F) by inserting at the end the following new paragraph:

“(5) by inserting at the end the following new subsection:

“(e) The Administrator, in carrying out subsection (b), shall have the responsibility to promote economy and efficiency in the selection and utilization of space, staff, equipment, and supplies for processing mail at Federal facilities.”;

(3) in subsection (d)—

(A) in paragraph (1), by striking “; and” at the end and inserting a semicolon;

(B) in paragraph (2), by striking the period at the end and inserting “; and”; and

(C) by inserting at the end the following new paragraph:

“(3) by inserting at the end the following new subsection:

“(c) The Administrator (or the Administrator's designee) may inspect the mail processing practices and programs of any Federal agency for the purpose of rendering recommendations for the improvement of mail processing practices and programs. Officers and employees of such agencies shall cooperate fully in such inspections of mail processing practices and programs.”;

(4) by striking subsection (f); and

(5) by redesignating subsection (g) as subsection (f).

(b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by this section shall take effect as if included in the Presidential and Federal Records Act Amendments of 2014 (Public Law 113-187).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Oklahoma (Mr. RUSSELL) and the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. CONNOLLY) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Oklahoma.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members have 5 legislative days to revise and extend their remarks and to include any extraneous material in the RECORD on the bill under consideration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Oklahoma?

There was no objection.

Mr. RUSSELL. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

I present today H.R. 194, the Federal Agency Mail Management Act of 2017. Approximately 2 years ago, President Obama signed into law the Presidential and Federal Records Act Amendments of 2014.

The law modernized and improved Federal recordkeeping statutes by codifying agency responsibilities that have been in practice for decades. Once the law was enacted, the General Services Administration, or GSA, identified technical provisions in the law that the agency interpreted as limiting its ability to regulate Federal agency mailroom operations.