



Building Success. Together.

December 4, 2015

To: Members of the U.S. House of Representatives

From: James Ballentine, Executive Vice President Congressional Relations & Political Affairs

Re: Oppose Section 407 of Cyber Security Information Sharing Act (CISA) – Cosign Letter

The threat of cyber-attacks is a real and omnipresent danger to banks of all sizes and that is why our members have made the protection of customer sensitive information top priority. That is also why we strongly supported H.R. 1560, the Protecting Cyber Networks Act/National Cybersecurity Protection Advancement Act, passed by the House that would enhance voluntary cyber threat information sharing among the private sector and the Federal government.

The House bill and a similar measure passed by the Senate, the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act (S. 754), are consistent with the goal of enhancing our nation's ability to defend against cyber-attacks. However, we have significant concerns with Section 407 of the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act. This provision would essentially mandate regulation of our industry by the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and is simply at odds with the overall goal of a comprehensive, voluntary information sharing framework. It was not adequately vetted in the same manner as the rest of the legislation and therefore could have unintended consequences that would impact the effectiveness of voluntary information sharing.

Chairman Lamar Smith agrees and is currently seeking signatures on the [attached letter](#) expressing that concern. The letter will be sent to the House and Senate negotiators as soon as next Tuesday so we urge you to contact Chairman Smith's office and sign the letter as soon as possible.