

May 16, 2016

Chairman Lindsey Graham
Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Ranking Member Sheldon Whitehouse
Subcommittee on Crime and Terrorism
Committee on the Judiciary
U.S. Senate
224 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

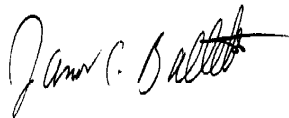
Dear Chairman Graham and Ranking Member Whitehouse:

On behalf of the members of the American Bankers Association, I am writing to thank you for your continued efforts to combat cyber-crime and in particular for introducing S. 2931, The Botnet Prevention Act of 2016.

As you are very well aware, the financial services industry is on the front lines of this fight and has been subjected to numerous denials of service and other botnet attacks. We are very pleased that your bill would put in place several measures intended to enhance the Department of Justice's ability to bring those that use botnets for criminal purposes to justice. This includes expansion of the Department's authority to issue injunctions, providing courts with greater discretion to impose tougher penalties on those that cause damage to critical infrastructure computers and new authorities intended to stop trafficking in botnets. Updating and expanding the criminal code to allow for injunctions against a broader set of illegal Botnet activities will greatly enhance our nation's ability to limit the use of these illicit tools and indict those that use them. Increasing the sentences faced by such criminals is also an important deterrent to such activities.

We commend you for introducing The Botnet Prevention Act and look forward to working with you and your colleagues on the Judiciary Committee on this important legislation.

Sincerely,



James C. Ballentine

cc: Members of the Senate Judiciary Committee