



10 December 2014

The Honorable Ron Wyden
Chairman, Committee on Finance
United States Senate
221 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Senator Wyden:

IEEE- USA, on behalf of our more than 200,000 members, congratulates Senator Wyden for introducing S. 2981, the Secure Data Act of 2014. We applaud the Senator's efforts to protect America's computer networks, America's business competitiveness, and the security of the American public.

IEEE-USA's Committee on Communications Policy published a White Paper earlier this year, *Risking it All: Unlocking the Backdoor to the Nation's Cybersecurity*, (<http://ieeusa.org/volunteers/committees/ccp/documents/BACKDOORWhitePaperFINALJUNE2014.pdf>) that describes the dangers of purposely weakening protections for U.S. goods and services in the name of national security or law enforcement. As Senator Wyden has pointed out, such actions have been found to often harm national security and encourage illicit activity.

IEEE-USA is an organizational unit of the IEEE, the world's largest organization for technical professionals, and a leading association for the advancement of technology, education, and science. IEEE-USA fosters technological innovation for the benefit of all, including our more than 200,000 U.S. engineers, scientists, information technologists, and allied professionals who are members of the IEEE. If we can be of further assistance, please contact Russell Harrison in our Washington office at (202) 530-8326 or at r.t.harrison@ieee.org.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Gary L. Blank".

Gary L. Blank
2014 IEEE-USA President