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March 9, 2023

Chair Grayber and Members of the Committee,

My name is Robin Mayall, and I'm here on behalf of the City of Eugene as their Technology Director. As you may know, the global volume of cyberattacks rose rapidly during the pandemic, is currently at an all-time high, and unfortunately continues to grow at a rapid pace. Government agencies are among the top three cyberattack targets and we are often under threat from nationstate actors with vast resources as well as domestic cyber criminals. In response to this increasing barrage of attacks, our federal government has taken the unprecedented step of issuing a National Cybersecurity Strategy intended to Defend our Critical Infrastructure, Disrupt Threat Actors, and Increase Security and Resilience.

As attacks on our systems become more frequent and severe, government entities spend proportionally more of our technology budgets defending against them and ensuring recoverability. While we take extremely seriously our responsibility to be transparent in the ways that public moneys are spent, there is also great danger in revealing details of our systems and devices that are meant to protect the public's personal data, secure our networks, and ensure that critical and often life-saving public services are not disrupted.

As cyberattacks have become an increasing threat, cyber-insurance companies have become much more detailed and demanding in their applications. Just a few years ago, cybersecurity insurance applications were brief, asking very general questions. Each year, we have seen them ask for greater specificity and detail about the systems we employ, so that now these applications themselves have become lengthy and comprehensive records of our defensive and recovery systems. Disclosing these, and other detailed records, puts the public's data and systems at risk of being ransomed, disabled, or disclosed by malicious actors - either for monetary gain or to disrupt American municipal systems.

This bill would allow us to protect the confidential information and security details of our systems from the potential of being disclosed to malicious actors and used against us in a high threat environment. It allows us to be better stewards of the public's trust, their personal, business, health, criminal justice, and financial data, and the critical systems (like our 911 centers) that they rely on. We appreciate your time and attention to this matter, thank you.

Sincerely,

Robin Mayall