



May 10, 2016

The Honorable Brian Schatz
722 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Ben Sasse
386A Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Schatz and Senator Sasse:

On behalf of BSA | The Software Alliance, I write to applaud your recent introduction of the Open, Public, Electronic, and Necessary (“OPEN”) Government Data Act. (S. 2582). We strongly support this effort to make non-sensitive government data more open, available, and usable for the general public.

Our members develop cutting edge technologies that unlock the value of data. Their software-enabled data solutions are transforming the world around us, empowering us as individuals, and growing our economy by helping us all use resources more effectively. Economists estimate that these data-driven efficiencies could add nearly \$15 trillion to global GDP by 2030. By making government data sets more freely available, the OPEN Government Data Act will help to unleash the potential of this untapped national resource.

I appreciate your leadership on this issue and look forward to working with your offices as the bill makes its way through the Senate.

Sincerely,

Victoria A. Espinel
President and CEO