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Chairman

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WASHINGTON, DC 20510-3703

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COMMITTEES:

COMMITTEE ON FINANCE COMMITTEE ON BUDGET COMMITTEE ON ENERGY & NATURAL RESOURCES SELECT COMMITTEE ON INTELLIGENCE JOINT COMMITTEE ON TAXATION

The Honorable Amy Klobuchar The Honorable Roy Blunt Ranking Member Committee on Rules and Administration Committee on Rules and Administration United States Senate United States Senate Washington, DC 20510 Washington, DC 20510

Dear Chairman Blunt and Ranking Member Klobuchar:

I write to thank you for your recent efforts to secure Senate data by directing the Senate Sergeant at Arms (SAA) to encrypt data stored on Senate computers.

As you know, I urged both of you this past summer to take action-in your capacity as Chair and Ranking Member, respectively, of the Senate Committee on Rules and Administration-to secure data on Senate computers. In October, 2018, in response to my request, the Committee directed the SAA to encrypt data on Senate computers.

I applaud these efforts as this new common-sense cybersecurity policy will better protect sensitive Senate data from those who might wish to compromise it. This new policy will make it much harder for any would-be spy or criminal who steals a Senate computer to access Senate data. This is particularly important for laptops, which are more vulnerable to foreign government surveillance when Senate staff take them home or on work-related travel.

I have long promoted the benefits of strong encryption technology, which can help to secure our nation from advanced cyber threats. As such, I sincerely appreciate your leadership and look forward to continued collaboration with you to further improve the Senate's cybersecurity.

Sincerely,

United States Senator