



**March 23, 2023**

**The Honorable Kevin McCarthy**

Speaker  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

**The Honorable Charles E. Schumer**

Majority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

**The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries**

Minority Leader  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

**The Honorable Mitch McConnell**

Minority Leader  
U.S. Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Speaker McCarthy, Majority Leader Schumer, Minority Leader Jeffries, and Minority Leader McConnell,

We, the undersigned, write the U.S. House of Representatives and Senate to express our support for the Strengthening Agency Management and Oversight of Software Assets Act. The bipartisan and bicameral legislation was first introduced in the 117th Congress and reported out of the Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee in September 2022. We urge Congress to take up and pass the legislation, which was recently reintroduced this Congress by Sens. Gary Peters (D-MI) and Bill Cassidy (R-LA) in the Senate and Rep. Cartwright (D, PA-08) and a bipartisan group of 10 House members in the House.

Technology plays a critical role in the daily operations of the United States federal government. The federal workforce, which includes nearly 2.1 million civilian employees, utilizes licensed software for daily business and specialized projects, accounting for an estimated \$10 and \$15 billion of the U.S. government's annual federal spending. The Strengthening Agency Management and Oversight of Software Assets Act would require federal agency heads to conduct an assessment of their agency's software contracts, offering key insights on costs, management, and cybersecurity risk. As federal agencies adopt varying approaches to modernize and manage their IT, it is important to have a



comprehensive view of all of their software assets and discretion to both consolidate large enterprise licenses to attain cost savings as well as continue to purchase specialized software licenses for differentiated capabilities. The complexity of federal software purchasing and management along with restrictions placed on how the software is run, prevents federal agencies from using the most innovative, cost-effective, interoperable and secure software and cloud services of choice. Further, hidden fees and unnecessary spending deplete government resources and put hard-earned taxpayer dollars at risk of waste, fraud, and abuse. These reports will help to inform ongoing efforts to modernize the federal government and improve the value of federal IT.

A recent report by Michael Garland found that the U.S. government could conservatively save \$500 to \$750 million annually by taking steps to address systemic issues and embedded restrictions with their software licensing. The Strengthening Agency Management and Oversight of Software Assets Act presents an opportunity to realize these savings. Ultimately, the goal of this bill is to ensure that software and other IT work in harmony within and across federal agencies. This will not only improve interagency coordination and communication but also ensure better returns on IT investments made with taxpayer dollars.

Examining and rooting out the potential for waste, fraud, and abuse throughout the federal government has long been a bipartisan priority in Congress as it supports prudent, long-lasting solutions. We urge Congressional leaders to support this bipartisan momentum and include the Strengthening Agency Management and Oversight of Software Assets Act in must-pass legislation this year.

Sincerely,

**Coalition for Fair Software Licensing**

**NetChoice**

**CCIA**

**TechNet**

**Alliance for Digital Innovation**