



October 22, 2019

The Honorable Gerry Connolly  
Chairman  
Committee on Oversight and Reform  
Subcommittee on Government Operations

The Honorable Mark Meadows  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Oversight and Reform  
Subcommittee on Government Operations

Dear Chairman Connolly and Ranking Member Meadows:

On behalf of the more than 400 member companies of the Professional Services Council (PSC), I am writing to express our association's support for your legislation, the Federal Risk and Authorization Management Program Authorization Act (H.R. 3941 or the FedRAMP Authorization Act) and to urge the Congress to move the bill forward expeditiously. PSC is the voice of the government technology and professional services industry, representing the full range and diversity of the government services sector.

America is the world leader in cloud computing, yet our government lags behind the private sector when it comes to leveraging cloud-based technologies. As the overall shift to buying technologies "as a service" continues, federal agencies risk falling even further behind how leading private sector organizations operate. PSC believes that your legislation would help reverse this trend and provide much needed improvements to the FedRAMP program.

In particular, we support the legislation's intent to address issues surrounding reciprocity and to streamline and accelerate the "Authority to Operate" (ATO) review and approval process.

Currently, once companies have successfully gone through the FedRAMP process, they cannot always reuse their ATO with multiple federal agency customers as envisioned by FedRAMP's "do once, use many times" approach. By establishing a presumption of adequacy, agencies will not have to individually relitigate an approved assessment. This will remove barriers for companies seeking to offer cloud products and services across government, while ideally eliminating wasteful, duplicative authorization reviews by agencies.

Additionally, the legislation moves in the right direction to a more efficient and streamlined process for the government's use of cloud products and services. Accelerating the ATO process is essential for bringing more innovation into government and achieving the President's Management Agenda goals for IT modernization and leveraging data as a strategic resource. We urge the Congress to continue to work to incorporate new technologies—such as artificial intelligence, machine learning and robotics process automation—into the process for FedRAMP certification and compliance monitoring.

Finally, we welcome the legislation's establishment of a public-private "Federal Secure Cloud Advisory Committee" to ensure effective and ongoing coordination of cloud computing products and services to enable agency mission and administrative priorities. We are grateful that your legislation recognizes the critical role that contractors play in providing cloud computing products and services, and that there is value in ensuing industry has a voice in assisting the government with securing the "cloud."

PSC looks forward to continuing to work with you to see this legislation enacted. We are hopeful that, as this bill moved forward, the Congress will continue to work to strengthen the provisions that address reciprocity and accelerate the ATO process.

I appreciate your time and attention to this issue. If PSC or I can be of further assistance on this, or any other matter, please do not hesitate to let me know.

Yours respectfully,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Alan Chvotkin". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name being more prominent.

Alan Chvotkin  
Executive Vice President and Counsel