



Sicuro Innovations LLC

16 May 2018

The Honorable Marsha Blackburn
Chairman
Subcommittee on Communications and
Technology
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Michael F. Doyle
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Communications and
Technology
Committee on Energy and Commerce
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman Blackburn and Ranking Member Doyle:

Sicuro Innovations is a cybersecurity firm that has developed embedded and cloud based artificially intelligent (AI) software to secure Internet of Things (IoT) devices in the AgTech, telecommunications, supply chain, and energy industries. Sicuro was founded in response to the absence of security of connected devices integrated into our homes & businesses, and illustrates a critical gap in national security. The deployment of 5G and increased wireless broadband Internet access service presents incredible economic development opportunities including precision agriculture, tele-health, renewable energy, efficient supply chains, industrial manufacturing, and autonomous vehicles. However without an effective government and industry response to the vulnerabilities in our telecommunications networks and their supply chains, we risk losing the ability for smaller companies to compete in a global environment and leave critical nodes of the supply chain and our national security vulnerable to foreign influence.

The American dream is fundamentally based on small businesses' ability to engage and grow within a national and globally competitive landscape. Small businesses need to ensure that everything from the equipment they procure, the broadband service that connects them to the Internet, to the devices that connect to the Internet, are secure. Vulnerabilities in our connected supply chain leave the United States at a competitive disadvantage. Moreover, lack of competition in the vendor market reduces the ability of small businesses to grow and make decisions based on their own safety and security. These businesses need options that not only meet their product and service needs but also options that support our shared investment in our nation's national security. Unfortunately, market pressures have shifted vendor markets against these concerns.

Where we fail to mitigate barriers to competition, we will need an effective strategy to mitigate specific threats to our networks and devices. Sicuro leverages AI to provide small businesses and manufacturers with a secure way to integrate connected devices with 5G. Even in instances where businesses are incentivized to engineer IoT devices with lower quality foreign made components in order to take advantage of "first to market" opportunities, Sicuro can help prevent widespread transfer of malware through IoT and other devices by recognizing anomalies in machine behavior. Though we encourage businesses to use standards bodies to produce and manufacture devices with security in mind, often they are produced with an acceptably poor level of security without possibility of legal repercussion. Even in these instances, Sicuro is one tool that could help mitigate existing threats, and

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adapt to threats of the future. We need to take a more proactive and thoughtful approach to the security of our connected environment, rather than simply reacting to the threat landscape as it presents itself and leaving resource limited small businesses with inherently vulnerable devices to take a stand against foreign adversaries and cyber criminals.

I applaud the Chairman and Ranking Member for facilitating this conversation on telecommunications, competitiveness, and national security to ensure the Congress plays an active role in establishing appropriate oversight that promotes competition and security in our nation's telecommunications technology. I also applaud the Energy and Commerce Committee for tackling an issue much larger than spectrum allocation alone, by examining the tough questions that will shape the future and role that small businesses play in innovation, connectivity, and America's future.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "N. Pisciotto". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a large initial "N" and a long, sweeping underline.

Nicholas J. Pisciotto
Chief Executive Officer
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