



Hon. James Sensenbrenner, Chairman
Committee on the Judiciary
2138 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, DC 20515

Hon. John Conyers, Ranking Member
Committee on the Judiciary
B-351-C Rayburn House Office Building
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Dear Chairman Sensenbrenner and Ranking Member Conyers:

We write to thank you for your hard work on behalf of consumers to address the threat of spyware. As you know, spyware is a growing epidemic endangering the privacy of Internet users, their ability to control their own computers, and the health of the Internet as whole. We appreciate the deliberative and open process that the Committee has maintained in working to craft an appropriate legislative remedy to this complicated problem. By focusing on behavior rather than technology, in HR 4661 the Committee has crafted a bill that will help combat the worst forms of spyware without unduly burdening innovation online.

As the sponsors of the current bill have pointed out, enforcement actions against purveyors of spyware have been lax to date. HR 4661 will give the Department of Justice explicit authority and a clear mandate to pursue the worst offenders, as well as authorizing much needed funds for such prosecutions. It appropriately focuses criminal enforcement on the most egregious cases, and will help provide a strong deterrent to such activity.

We have very much appreciated the opportunity to work with the Committee on the spyware issue, and we look forward to continuing to work with you on digital privacy issues in the future.

Sincerely

Ari Schwartz
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