

November 18, 2013

The Honorable Darrell Issa
Chairman, House Oversight and Reform Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

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And
The Honorable Elijah Cummings
Ranking Member, House Oversight and Reform Committee
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

RE: The Digital Accountability and Transparency Act of 2013, HR 2061

Dear Chairman Issa and Ranking Member Cummings:

On behalf of the members of XBRL US, the nonprofit consortium for XBRL business reporting standards, I am writing in support of the Digital Accountability and Transparency (DATA) Act, HR 2061, which will mandate the use of open source data standards for federal spending. We applaud your leadership in introducing and supporting this bill which we believe will serve to promote greater accountability and transparency in government reporting.

Data standards are a critical tool to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of communicating and analyzing the information needed to track and evaluate government programs by enabling comparability and compatibility. Using open standards to track, report, and evaluate the effectiveness of government programs will ensure that government agencies, the public and others have access to the most timely, accurate data produced in an efficient and cost-effective manner. Open standards are a low cost solution that can leverage existing market tools, infrastructure and expertise.

XBRL US understands the importance of standardization and applauds your leadership on this critical issue. We welcome the opportunity to discuss the effectiveness of data standards in place in the U.S. and internationally. Should you require further information, and to assist in your efforts in any way, I can be reached at 917-582-6159, Campbell.pryde@xbri.us.



Campbell Pryde
President and CEO
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