



May 5, 2019

Conference Committee Members on
Omnibus State Government Appropriations
3103 Minnesota Senate Bldg.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Chairwoman Mary Kiffmeyer
Senator Mark Koran
Senator Andrew Mathews
Senator Bruce Anderson
Senator Jim Carlson

Chairman Mike Nelson
Representative Mike Freiberg
Representative Rob Ecklund
Representative Raymond Dehn
Representative Debra Kiel

RE: SF 2227/HF1935, Cloud Computing

Dear Members of the Conference Committee:

Thank you for including language surrounding cloud computing services in your omnibus spending bills. This legislation is an important step in addressing the opportunities available through the public sector's use of cloud computing technology. We believe this authorization will send a strong signal that Minnesota intends to leverage innovative commercial technology to deliver better citizen services while saving money on computing and storage resources. I am writing to express support for this legislation and offer to engage with you about the benefits of modern cloud services use across the state.

Internet Association (IA) represents over 45 leading internet companies and supports policies that promote and enable internet innovation, including commercial cloud solutions. Our companies are global leaders in the drive to develop lower cost, more secure, scalable, elastic, efficient, resilient, and innovative cloud services to customers in both the private and public sectors.

Public servants across Minnesota perform essential mission functions using information technology every day, and cloud computing technology will enable them to increase productivity, lower costs, and increase security. Empowering Minnesota's chief information officer to consider cloud computing service options is a great first step in broader modernization and transformation of the state's technology landscape. We also appreciate the



inclusion of the industry recognized standard for cloud computing pursuant to the definition outlined by the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST). Furthermore, migrating applications away from the state's data center into a commercial cloud solutions will result in enhanced security and better resident services while saving money associated with the operations and maintenance of a state-run data storage facility.

The internet industry appreciates your leadership on this issue and looks forward to working with you as a resource as this cloud computing provision moves forward. It is time to help the government modernize, save money, and increase security by using cloud computing.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Alla Seiffert'.

Alla Seiffert

Director, Cloud Policy and Counsel

cc: Colleen Daley, Director, State Government Affairs, Midwest Region at Internet Association
Robert Callahan, Vice President, State Government Affairs at Internet Association