



The Honorable Cory Gardner
United States Senate
Washington, DC

The Honorable Blake Farenthold
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC

The Honorable Ron Johnson
United States Senate
Washington, DC

The Honorable Ted Lieu
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC

The Honorable Brian Schatz
United States Senate
Washington, DC

Dear Sen. Gardner, Sen. Johnson, Sen. Schatz, Rep. Farenthold, and Rep. Lieu:

Thank you for your work on the Protecting Our Ability to Counter Hacking Act (PATCH Act). As you know, it is critical that the U.S. government work with the companies that build the hardware, software, and infrastructure used by the government and private Americans alike. Indeed, software makers and manufacturers of connected devices serve users globally, from internet users to hospitals around the world to journalists to titans of industry - as we have seen demonstrated in recent attacks.

Mozilla is a global community of technologists, thinkers and builders working together to keep the internet open, accessible, and secure. We are the creators of Firefox, an open source browser that hundreds of millions of people around the world use as their window to the web. To fulfill the mission of keeping the web open and accessible to all, we are constantly investing in the security of our products, the internet, and the infrastructure underlying it.

One of the things that helps keep these important platforms and tools secure is the Vulnerabilities Equities Process (VEP). We have been highlighting the VEP for some time now, as we recognize its importance, yet also its opacity - as it has no official backing in law, nor any legislative guidance.

Last year, we wrote about five important reforms we believe are necessary for the VEP:

- All security vulnerabilities should go through the VEP.
- All relevant federal agencies involved in the VEP should work together using a standard set of criteria to ensure all risks and interests are considered.
- Independent oversight and transparency into the processes and procedures of the VEP must be created.
- The VEP should be placed within the Department of Homeland Security, with their expertise in existing coordinated vulnerability disclosure programs.
- The VEP should be codified in law to ensure compliance and permanence.

We are pleased to see each of these addressed in the PATCH Act. Cybersecurity is a shared responsibility, and that means we all must do our part - technology companies, users, and governments. We are encouraged by your support of these important reforms to the VEP and will continue to work with you to ensure that the government evaluates the risks of vulnerabilities responsibly. Thank you for your leadership.

Sincerely,
Denelle Dixon
Chief Legal and Business Officer
Mozilla Corp.