

June 2, 2025

The Honorable Rand Paul
Chairman
Committee on Homeland Security and
Governmental Affairs
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Gary Peters
Ranking Member
Committee on Homeland Security and
Governmental Affairs
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Re: Nomination of Sean Cairncross for the position of National Cyber Director

Dear Chairman Paul and Ranking Member Peters,

We, the undersigned, strongly endorse the nomination of Sean Cairncross for the position of National Cyber Director. As a group of senior national security experts with decades of experience in both the public and private sectors, we write to express our unanimous and enthusiastic support for Mr. Cairncross's nomination. Sean has a strong record of public service, outstanding credentials, as well as a demonstrated and unwavering commitment to advancing U.S. national security.

The position of National Cyber Director requires understanding of the many cybersecurity threats and challenges facing our Nation, combined with an effective capability to navigate the federal interagency and build strong relationships with key private sector stakeholders. Building on the good work that has come before will require a focus on implementation of strategy, and Sean is exceedingly well prepared to undertake these stated challenges.

Sean's previous roles as Chief Executive Officer and board member of the Millennium Challenge Corporation have shown deft experience in prudently managing and overseeing resources, while also dealing with government and private sector stakeholders, including international partners. Prior to this, his role as Deputy Assistant to the President and Senior Advisor to the Chief of Staff positioned Sean as counselor regarding key national security priorities, where he sat as proxy for the White House Chief of Staff on the National Security Council Principals Committee. Moreover, his role leading operations for the Republican National Committee combined with private sector legal experience have allowed him to effectively understand and respond to rapidly evolving political dynamics shaping policy conversations at the highest levels of government.

His impressive combination of experience in both the public and private sectors, as well as his ability to navigate government, build coalitions, and implement strategic approaches to the challenges facing the United States make Sean situated particularly well to this role.

In short, we believe that Sean is tremendously well suited for the challenging position of National Cyber Director and stand ready to provide the Senate with any additional information sought. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,

George Barnes

Former Deputy Director
National Security Agency

Thomas K. Billington

Founder and Chief Executive Officer
Billington CyberSecurity

Thomas P. Bossert

Former Homeland Security Advisor

Lt. Gen. (Ret.) Ronald L. Burgess

Former Director
Defense Intelligence Agency

Bruce Byrd

Executive Vice President and General Counsel
Palo Alto Networks

Frank J. Cilluffo

Director
McCrary Institute for Cyber and Critical Infrastructure Security
Commissioner
Cyberspace Solarium Commission

Dave DeWalt

Founder and CEO
NightDragon

William Evanina

Former Director
National Counterintelligence and Security Center

Tom Fanning

Former Executive Chairman
Southern Company
Commissioner
Cyberspace Solarium Commission

Rohit Ghai

Chief Executive Officer
RSA Security

Brian Harrell

Former Assistant Secretary for Infrastructure Protection
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Hon. Chris Inglis

Former National Cyber Director
Commissioner
Cyberspace Solarium Commission

Hon. John Katko

Former Ranking Member
Committee on Homeland Security
U.S. House of Representatives

Rob Lee

Founder and CEO
Dragos, Inc.

Gen. (Ret.) Kenneth F. McKenzie, Jr.

United States Marine Corps

Adam Meyers

Senior Vice President for Counter Adversary Operations
CrowdStrike

RADM (Ret.) Mark Montgomery
Senior Director
Center on Cyber and Technology Innovation
Executive Director and Vice Commissioner
Cyberspace Solarium Commission

Hon. Kirstjen Nielsen
Former Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

Amb. Robert C. O'Brien (Ret.)
27th U.S. National Security Advisor

Samantha Ravich
Chair
Center on Cyber and Tech Innovation
Foundation for the Defense of Democracies
Commissioner
Cyberspace Solarium Commission

Christopher D. Roberti
Senior Vice President for Cyber, Space, and National Security Policy
U.S. Chamber of Commerce

Nick Sellers
Chief Operating Officer
McCrary Institute for Cyber and Critical Infrastructure Security

Hemen Vimadalal
Founder and Chief Executive Officer
1Kosmos

Hon. Chad Wolf
Former Acting Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security