



National Cyber
Security Division



Multi-State
Information Sharing and Analysis Center



August 2008

The Honorable First, Last Name

Dear Governor [Last Name]:

The U.S. Department of Homeland Security's National Cyber Security Division (NCSD), the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center (MS-ISAC), and the National Cyber Security Alliance (NCSA), invite you to reaffirm your commitment to securing cyberspace and protecting the citizens who rely on Internet technologies in their daily activities. The fifth annual National Cyber Security Awareness Month, being held this October, will once again showcase our efforts to empower citizens, businesses, government, and schools to improve their cyber security preparedness. Your endorsement will help ensure all Americans have the opportunity to learn more about cyber security and how to safeguard themselves from cyber-based threats.

The increase in both the frequency of reports of Internet information breaches and in the volume and complexity of cyber attacks is a constant reminder of the need to promote cyber security awareness across the country. National Cyber Security Awareness Month was born from this recognition and continues to be a focal point in our shared efforts. Continuing support from senior State leaders is critical and demonstrates that there is significant interest in cyber security as a public need.

Last year, 29 governors signed proclamations or letters of support declaring October to be National Cyber Security Awareness Month. Our goal is to bring that total to 50 in 2008. We respectfully request that you join your fellow governors in adopting a resolution or proclamation declaring October Cyber Security Awareness Month. If you have not already signed a proclamation or letter of support, a sample is enclosed for your consideration.

Another component of the National Cyber Security Awareness Campaign is the "Cyber Security Toolkit" that we are mailing to your State's MS-ISAC Principal Representative this month. The MS-ISAC is a cooperative organization focused on providing a common mechanism for raising the level of cyber security readiness and response in each State, local governments and U.S. Territories. The purpose of the Toolkit is to promote a consistent cyber security awareness message by reinforcing core themes in practical, informative, entertaining, and usable ways. We encourage you to use these kits in working with your Chief Information Security Officers (CISOs) and Chief Information Officers (CIOs) to spread the word on the importance of sound cyber security practices. You may also want to consider branding these tools by placing your state's name and logo on the materials and distributing them at public events, in personal correspondence, or any other opportunity to discuss cyber security with your constituents.

Each State will receive the following items in its Toolkit:

- **2009 Cyber Security Calendars**, featuring artwork from the MS-ISAC Children's Poster Contest
- **Cyber Security Awareness Bookmarks**
- **Cyber Security Posters**
- **Cyber Security Awareness Brochures**
- **MS-ISAC Toolkit CD**, includes electronic copies of all materials, plus additional training/awareness/policy guides

Additional information and resources for educating citizens on cyber issues and implementing sound cyber security practices are available at the following Websites:

- DHS United States Computer Emergency Readiness Team – www.US-CERT.gov
- Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center – www.MSISAC.org
- National Cyber Security Alliance – www.StaySafeOnline.org

We look forward to partnering with you in this collaborative effort to educate as many citizens as possible in your state to raise awareness of how to stay safe online. Your active involvement will help to facilitate a safe Internet experience for all Americans.

If there are any questions, you may feel free to have your staff contact William F. Pelgrin, Chair of the MS-ISAC at (518) 473-4383.

Thank you.

Sincerely,

/s/

Cornelius Tate
Director

National Cyber Security Division
U.S. Department of Homeland Security

/s/

William F. Pelgrin
Chair
Multi-State
Information Sharing & Analysis Center

/s/

Tiffany Jones
Chair
National Cyber Security Alliance

Enclosure

cc: xxxxx, MS-ISAC Principal Member for State of xxxxxx