

Dear Mr. Danilow:

Thank you for contacting me regarding consumer privacy. I share your concern about the types of personal information that are readily available and can be tracked on the Internet. Congress--and the Senate Commerce Committee in particular--is considering a number of proposals to strengthen consumer privacy protections.

The Do-Not-Track Online Act of 2013 (S. 418) would require browsers like Internet Explorer or Apple Safari to provide a tool that allows users to opt out of having their information collected online. For those users who do not opt out of having their information collected, however, browsers would still be required to "anonymize" or delete the data once the service is completed.

The Electronic Communications Privacy Act Amendments Act of 2013 (S. 607) would protect personal emails, texts, social media posts, and other electronic communications. This bill requires the government to obtain search warrants to access electronic communications stored by a third party.

In the Internet age, information moves at the speed of light. We need to make sure that our nation's laws remain relevant and continue to protect consumers as technology advances. As a member of the Senate Commerce Committee, I will be sure to keep your views in mind when considering specific legislation and consumer protection measures.

Meantime, please feel free to visit the Federal Trade Commission's website dedicated to helping consumers protect their personal information online: <http://www.ftc.gov/bcp/menu-internet.htm>. Please don't hesitate to contact me in the future.

Sincerely,
Bill Nelson