March 15, 2016

The Honorable Deb Fischer
454 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Cory Booker
359 Dirksen Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Kelly Ayotte
144 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Brian Schatz
722 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators Fischer, Ayotte, Booker and Schatz:

The Semiconductor Industry Association (SIA), the voice of the U.S. semiconductor industry, strongly supports the Developing Innovation and Growing the Internet of Things (DIGIT) Act. SIA applauds your leadership to introduce legislation to create a working group to provide insight to Congress on how to encourage the growth of the Internet of Things (IoT) economy, powered by semiconductors.

Semiconductors are the foundational, enabling technology for the IoT. They allow devices to connect to each other and the Internet, making them “smart” and efficient. Continued innovation in semiconductor technology will enable the future growth of the IoT.

Semiconductors are one of America’s top export industries and a key driver of America’s economic strength, national security, and global competitiveness. Semiconductors – microchips that control all modern electronics – enable the systems and products we use to work, communicate, travel, entertain, harness energy, treat illness, and make new scientific discoveries. The semiconductor industry directly employs nearly a quarter of a million people in the U.S. In 2015, U.S. semiconductor company sales totaled $166 billion, and semiconductors make the global trillion dollar electronics industry possible. More information on SIA is available at www.semiconductors.org.

We look forward to working with you to advance this legislation and further American leadership in the IoT.

Sincerely,