CYBER SECURITY: MAKING THE COUNTRY SAFER AND THE ECONOMY STRONGER

"We are under attack. Every day, cyber thieves, cyber thugs, and cyber terrorists are hacking our systems, trying to take them down. They want to steal our intellectual property, our state secrets and our freedom and our prosperity. Our nation's main line of defense is right here in Maryland. We are the epicenter of cyber security to defend and protect the United States of America. And we are the epicenter of developing a cyber security workforce prepared for the jobs of today and the jobs of the future." – U.S. Senator Barbara A. Mikulski (D-Md.)

Since Estonia's banking and communications infrastructure were rendered inoperable by massive cyber attacks in 2007, Senator Mikulski has been leading the way in leveraging Maryland's unique federal assets and iconic educational institutions to make Maryland the global epicenter of cyber security.

As both the Chairwoman of the Appropriations Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice and Science and a member of the Select Committee on Intelligence, where she served on the Cyber Security Task Force, Senator Mikulski has been working to make our country safer and our economy stronger by:

- Helping to establish and stand-up the US Cyber Command, the US Navy's 10th Fleet Cyber Command, and the Defense Information Systems Agency at Fort Meade, Maryland.

- Securing the location of the Intelligence Advanced Research Projects Agency (IARPA) at Research Park, on the campus of the University of Maryland, College Park.

- Delivering increased cyber security funding for the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) in Gaithersburg, Maryland, enabling NIST to develop interoperable cyber standards and coordinate cyber education efforts.

- Strengthening needed personnel and technology resources at the National Security Agency to augment its cyber security activities.

- Working to secure a $4.9 million Department of Labor Workforce Training Grant at the Anne Arundel Economic Development Corporation that will provide cyber security training to 1,000 people.

- Enhancing the funding and resources available to the Federal Bureau of Investigation to combat domestic and international organized cyber crime.

- Bolstering cyber security research and development efforts at the National Science Foundation (NSF).

- Increasing funding for NSF scholarships to develop the cyber security workforce.