



May 22, 2020

The Honorable Buddy Carter
U.S. House of Representatives
2432 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Carter:

The Security Industry Association (SIA) is pleased to offer its support for H.R. 6929, *the Advancing Facial Recognition Act*, which requires the Federal Trade Commission, the U.S. Department of Commerce and other appropriate agencies to complete a comprehensive study on facial recognition technologies. SIA is a nonprofit trade association representing more than 1,000 businesses that provide a broad range of security products, including many leading developers of facial recognition technology solutions that integrate with security technology for a wide variety of public safety applications.

In the private and public sectors, facial recognition has offered tremendous benefits – primarily through allowing individuals to securely, quickly and conveniently prove their identity to enter a venue, board a plane, perform online transactions and seamlessly access personalized experiences. In addition, facial recognition has enabled private entities to secure their property against individuals seeking to commit violence, theft or other harm. Your legislation would provide a thorough review on how the federal government and private sector develop facial recognition technology while balancing America's leadership role with consumer protections.

SIA members have identified facial recognition as a force multiplier that will augment traditional security systems' computing processes, surveillance capabilities and software analytics and provide security professionals with improved situational awareness. To achieve the full promise of facial recognition technology will require investment and understanding by policymakers, technology developers, private and public end users and international partners. Importantly, the *Advancing Facial Recognition Act* strikes the appropriate balance in achieving this goal, which will be instrumental in crafting a future national strategy, identifying private-public partnerships, mitigating supply chain risks and accomplishing other objectives set forth in your bill.

SIA and our members look forward to working with you to ensure swift passage of this legislation by Congress. If your office decides to work on future legislation related to facial recognition technology, SIA is willing to provide stakeholder input. Thank you for your leadership and attention to this important matter.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Don Erickson".

Don Erickson
CEO
Security Industry Association