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**Academy President and CEO Terry Gerton
Applauds Congressional Action to Strengthen Cybersecurity Education**
*Bipartisan legislation follows independent Academy Panel report recommending
greater federal role in cyber education to combat growing cyber attacks*

WASHINGTON, DC – Terry Gerton, President and CEO of the National Academy of Public Administration (the Academy), applauds Congressional action to strengthen cybersecurity education, including the bipartisan legislation recently introduced by U.S. Senators Tim Kaine (D-VA) and Mike Rounds (R-SD). The *DoD Cyber Scholarship Program Act of 2017* authorizes \$10 million in funding for a Department of Defense (DoD) scholarship program and expands eligibility to community college students.

The Kaine-Rounds bill follows an October 2015 report from an independent Panel of the Academy, [*Increasing the Effectiveness of the Federal Role in Cybersecurity Education*](#), which made key recommendations for strengthening U.S. cybersecurity education efforts and highlighted the DoD cybersecurity scholarship program. The report was sponsored by Deloitte & Touche LLP and the Center for Internet Security.

“I am gratified to see that Congress has found the Panel’s work valuable,” said Gerton. “I applaud Congressional efforts to strengthen cybersecurity education, as we believe it will support essential efforts to build the cyber workforce of the future.”

The Academy Panel report was produced as cyber attacks on information technology became an increasing threat for both the government and the private sector, impacting both national security and the economy. As a result of increased cyber attacks, the demand for a skilled and well-trained cybersecurity workforce has grown quickly, outstripping the supply of properly trained and equipped professionals.

To assess the effectiveness of federal efforts to help alleviate that shortage, the Academy Panel of experts conducted an in-depth assessment of two federal programs, the National Centers of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance/Cyber Defense (CAE) and the CyberCorps®: Scholarship for Service (SFS) program. The Academy Panel, led by Panel Chair Dave Wennergren, recommended ways to strengthen the federal role in cybersecurity education; enhance the ability of students and employers to make informed

decisions about cybersecurity education and professional development; and support the government's development of skilled cybersecurity professionals.

“Improving cybersecurity is a national imperative,” said Wennergren. “The leadership of Senators Kaine and Rounds in introducing legislation that builds on our Panel’s report will have a significant positive impact on cybersecurity education and readiness.”

About the National Academy of Public Administration

Chartered by Congress to provide non-partisan expert advice, the Academy is an independent, non-profit, and non-partisan organization established in 1967 to assist government leaders in building more effective, efficient, accountable, and transparent organizations. Learn more at www.napawash.org

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