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It is my pleasure to submit to you the Commonwealth Cyber Initiative (CCI) Blueprint, as required by Item 252 in the 2018-2020 Virginia State Budget. This Blueprint represents thousands of hours of work by more than 80 representatives of about 50 institutions of higher education, companies, and representatives from government and non-governmental organizations. I would like to especially thank you and Lynn Seuffert for your contributions to the Advisory Council, and Jim Dyke for his service on the Executive Committee.

Through this process, we have benefitted greatly from the collective experience, knowledge, and participation of our partners across the Commonwealth. The Blueprint reflects our opinion about the best approach to making Virginia a leader in cybersecurity. A strong network of Nodes in regions across the Commonwealth, partnering with and coordinated by a nationally-recognized Hub of research and entrepreneurship in Northern Virginia, will create an ecosystem of cyber research, education, and economic growth.

I look forward to working with you on next steps to implement the vision of CCI.

With Regards,

Timothy D. Sands