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United States Senate

COMMITTEE ON COMMERCE, SCIENCE,
AND TRANSPORTATION

WASHINGTON, DC 20510-6125

WEB SITE: <http://commerce.senate.gov>

January 10, 2014

Mr. Gregg Steinhafel
Chairman, President and CEO
Target Corporation
1000 Nicollet Mall
Minneapolis, MN 55403

Dear Mr. Steinhafel:

We are writing to request a briefing from your company's information-security officials about Target's massive data breach of customer credit-card and debit-card information. Last month, it was reported that some 40 million accounts were compromised between November 27, 2013, and December 15, 2013, constituting one of the nation's biggest data breaches in recent memory. Just this morning, Target announced that the breach was much larger than previously known – that information on some 70 million consumers was stolen in this breach.

The Senate Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation has jurisdiction over commercial data practices and data security, and, as Chairman of the full Committee and Chairman of the Subcommittee on Consumer Protection, Product Safety, and Insurance, we have been advocates for data security and breach notification legislation that would better protect consumers and improve corporate responsibility. Target's recent incident demonstrates the need for such federal legislation.

We ask that Target's information-security officials provide a briefing to Committee staff regarding your company's investigation and latest findings on the circumstances that permitted unauthorized access to the financial information of so many Americans over the busiest shopping period of the year. It has been three weeks since the data breach was discovered, and new information continues to come out. We expect that your security experts have had time to fully examine the cause and impact of the breach and will be able to provide the Committee with detailed information.

Mr. Gregg Steinhafel
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Thank you for your prompt attention to this urgent matter. Should you have any questions, please contact Christian Tamotsu Fjeld on the Committee staff at (202) 224-1270.

Sincerely,



John D. Rockefeller IV
Chairman
Committee on Commerce, Science, and
Transportation

Sincerely,



Claire McCaskill
Chairman
Subcommittee on Consumer
Protection, Product Safety, and
Insurance