

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

September 19, 2017

Mr. Richard F. Smith
Chief Executive Officer
Equifax Inc.
1550 Peachtree Street, NE
Atlanta, Georgia 30309

Dear Mr. Smith,

We are deeply troubled to learn of the recent Equifax data breach, which has compromised the personal information of as many as 143 million Americans. It is imperative that you immediately take every possible step to ensure consumers and their credit files are protected from any further financial risks or intrusions on their privacy.

We are particularly concerned about the roughly 1.3 million active-duty U.S. military personnel, especially the nearly 200,000 currently stationed overseas, who may lack the access and resources required to place a credit freeze on their files or take other necessary measures to adequately protect their personal information. This could leave members of our military especially vulnerable to identity theft and financial fraud in the days, months, and years ahead.


In fact, that is why the Servicemembers Civil Relief Act (SCRA) has been a critical tool to protect active duty military members because our country recognizes the demands already placed on these individuals as they carry out missions abroad, particularly when serving in remote or high-conflict areas like the Middle East and parts of Africa.

We request that you immediately detail the specific actions Equifax will take to ensure our servicemembers are not victimized any further by thieves with access to personal information such as Social Security numbers, dates of birth, and home addresses. Our servicemembers and millions of Americans are now at risk, and it is incumbent on you to minimize the damage and remedy this wrong. We look forward to your timely response by October 6, 2017.

Sincerely,

Joe Donnelly
United States Senator

Dean Heller
United States Senator



Jon Tester
United States Senator



Robert Menendez
United States Senator