

113TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 4342

To prohibit the National Telecommunications and Information Administration from relinquishing responsibility over the Internet domain name system until the Comptroller General of the United States submits to Congress a report on the role of the NTIA with respect to such system.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 27, 2014

Mr. SHIMKUS (for himself, Mr. ROKITA, Mrs. ELLMERS, Mr. LATTA, Mr. BARTON, and Mrs. BLACKBURN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To prohibit the National Telecommunications and Information Administration from relinquishing responsibility over the Internet domain name system until the Comptroller General of the United States submits to Congress a report on the role of the NTIA with respect to such system.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Domain Openness
5 Through Continued Oversight Matters Act of 2014” or
6 the “DOTCOM Act of 2014”.

1 **SEC. 2. NTIA RETENTION OF DNS RESPONSIBILITIES PEND-**
2 **ING GAO REPORT.**

3 (a) RETENTION OF RESPONSIBILITIES.—Until the
4 Comptroller General of the United States submits the re-
5 port required by subsection (b), the Assistant Secretary
6 of Commerce for Communications and Information may
7 not relinquish or agree to any proposal relating to the re-
8 linquishment of the responsibility of the National Tele-
9 communications and Information Administration (in this
10 section referred to as the “NTIA”) over Internet domain
11 name system functions, including responsibility with re-
12 spect to the authoritative root zone file, the Internet As-
13 signed Numbers Authority functions, and related root
14 zone management functions.

15 (b) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date
16 on which the NTIA receives a proposal relating to the re-
17 linquishment of the responsibility of the NTIA over Inter-
18 net domain name system functions that was developed in
19 a process convened by the Internet Corporation for As-
20 signed Names and Numbers at the request of the NTIA,
21 the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit
22 to Congress a report on the role of the NTIA with respect
23 to the Internet domain name system. Such report shall
24 include—

25 (1) a discussion and analysis of—

1 (A) the advantages and disadvantages of
2 relinquishment of the responsibility of the
3 NTIA over Internet domain name system func-
4 tions, including responsibility with respect to
5 the authoritative root zone file, the Internet As-
6 signed Numbers Authority functions, and re-
7 lated root zone management functions;

8 (B) any principles or criteria that the
9 NTIA sets for proposals for such relinquish-
10 ment;

11 (C) each proposal received by the NTIA
12 for such relinquishment;

13 (D) the processes used by the NTIA and
14 any other Federal agencies for evaluating such
15 proposals; and

16 (E) any national security concerns raised
17 by such relinquishment; and

18 (2) a definition of the term “multistakeholder
19 model”, as used by the NTIA with respect to Inter-
20 net policymaking and governance, and definitions of
21 any other terms necessary to understand the matters
22 covered by the report.

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