

SMALL BUSINESS CYBERSECURITY ASSISTANCE
EVALUATION ACT OF 2026

JUNE 3, 2026.—Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of
the Union and ordered to be printed

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas, from the Committee on Small Business,
submitted the following

R E P O R T

together with

MINORITY VIEWS

[To accompany H.R. 8880]

The Committee on Small Business, to whom was referred the bill
(H.R. 8880) to require the Comptroller General to evaluate Federal
cybersecurity assistance to small business concerns, and for other
purposes, having considered the same, reports favorably thereon
without amendment and recommends that the bill do pass.

CONTENTS

	Page
I. Purpose and Bill Summary	2
II. Need for Legislation	2
III. Hearings	2
IV. Committee Consideration	2
V. Committee Votes	2
VI. Section-by-Section of H.R. 8880	4
VII. Congressional Budget Office Cost Estimate	4
VIII. New Budget Authority, Entitlement Authority, and Tax Expenditures	4
IX. Oversight Findings & Recommendations	5
X. Performance Goals and Objectives	5
XI. Statement of Duplication of Federal Programs	5
XII. Congressional Earmarks, Limited Tax Benefits, and Limited Tariff Benefits	5
XIII. Federal Mandates Statement	5
XIV. Federal Advisory Committee Statement	5
XV. Applicability to Legislative Branch	5
XVI. Statement of Constitutional Authority	5
XVII. Minority Views	6

I. PURPOSE AND BILL SUMMARY

On May 19, 2026, Rep. Lateefah Simon (D–CA) and Rep. Robert Bresnahan (R–PA), introduced H.R. 8880, the *Small Business Cybersecurity Assistance Evaluation Act of 2026*. This bill directs the Government Accountability Office (GAO) to conduct a study evaluating cybersecurity risks to small businesses, as well as existing federal cybersecurity programs and resources available to them.

II. NEED FOR LEGISLATION

The *Small Business Cybersecurity Assistance Evaluation Act of 2026* requires the GAO to conduct a study on existing federal government cybersecurity assistance available to small businesses, including programs, tools, resources, and services intended to help small business owners identify and respond to cyber threats. It also requires GAO to identify cyber risks, assess preparedness for these threats, and develop plans to mitigate and recover from cyberattacks on small businesses.

Small businesses are increasingly targeted by cybercriminals, ransomware attacks, scams, and fraud schemes, yet many lack the financial resources, personnel, or technical expertise necessary to defend against evolving cybersecurity threats. While multiple federal agencies offer cybersecurity assistance, these efforts are often hard to navigate or are underutilized.

By identifying weaknesses and room for improvement in current federal cybersecurity assistance resources, this legislation will ensure small businesses have better access to tools and training to protect themselves from cyberattacks.

III. HEARINGS

The Committee on Small Business held the following hearings examining matters related to H.R. 8880:

- On February 5, 2025, the Committee held a hearing titled “Hope on the Horizon: Prioritizing Small Business Growth in the 119th Congress.”
- On December 2, 2025, the Committee held a hearing titled “Main Street Under Attack: The Cost of Crime on Small Businesses”

IV. COMMITTEE CONSIDERATION

The Committee on Small Business met in open session, with a quorum being present, on May 20, 2026, and ordered H.R. 8880 to be reported favorably to the House of Representatives by a roll call vote of 23 ayes to 0 nos.

V. COMMITTEE VOTES

Clause 3(b) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives requires the Committee to list the recorded votes on the motion to report legislation and amendments thereto. The Committee voted to favorably report H.R. 8880 to the House of Representatives at 4:13 PM.

Present	Representatives	Aye	Nay
	Mr. Stauber (MN-08)	<i>X</i>	
	Mr. Meuser (PA-09)		
	Ms. Van Duyne (TX-24)	<i>X</i>	
	Mr. Ellzey (TX-06)	<i>X</i>	
	Mr. Alford (MO-04)	<i>X</i>	
	Mr. Finstad (MN-01)	<i>X</i>	
	Mr. Wied (WI-08)	<i>X</i>	
	Mr. Bresnahan (PA-08)	<i>X</i>	
	Mr. Jack (GA-03)	<i>X</i>	
	Ms. King-Hinds (Del.-CNMI)	<i>X</i>	
	Mr. Schmidt (KS-02)		
	Mr. Patronis (FL-01)	<i>X</i>	
	Mr. Fuller (GA-14)	<i>X</i>	
		12	
	Ranking Member Velazquez (NY-07)	<i>X</i>	
	Mr. McGarvey (KY-03)	<i>X</i>	
	Ms. Scholten (MI-03)	<i>X</i>	
	Ms. McIver (NJ-10)	<i>X</i>	
	Mr. Cisneros (CA-31)	<i>X</i>	
	Ms. Morrison (MN-03)	<i>X</i>	
	Mr. Latimer (NY-16)	<i>X</i>	
	Mr. Tran (CA-45)	<i>X</i>	
	Ms. Simon (CA-12)	<i>X</i>	
	Mr. Olszewski (MD-02)	<i>X</i>	
	Ms. Goodlander (NH-02)	<i>X</i>	
		11	
	Chairman Williams (TX-25)	<i>X</i>	
	TOTALS	23	0

COMMITTEE ON SMALL BUSINESS
119th Congress (Second Session)

Date: 5/20/2026 _____

Time: 4:13 PM ET _____

Measure: **H.R. 8880** – Small Business
Cybersecurity Assistance Evaluation Act of
2026

Offered By: _____

Amendment #: _____

Result?	<u>Agreed To:</u> [X]		
	<u>Not Agreed To:</u> []		
	<u>Withdrawn:</u> []		
<i>Voice Vote</i>	<i>Ayes</i>	<i>Nays</i>	<i>Present</i>
	23	0	

FC Vote #	7
-----------	---

VI. SECTION-BY-SECTION OF H.R. 8880

Section 1—Short title

This Act may be cited as the “Small Business Cybersecurity Assistance Evaluation Act of 2026.”

Section 2—GAO Study on Small Business Cybersecurity Assistance

This section requires GAO to conduct a study of existing federal cybersecurity initiatives, programs, resources, tools, and services intended to assist small business concerns.

The study examines federal efforts to help small businesses identify cybersecurity risks and vulnerabilities, assess preparedness, plan for and recover from cyberattacks and fraud, and access capital needed to implement cybersecurity measures and infrastructure.

This section requires GAO to evaluate the awareness, use, coordination, and effectiveness of existing federal cybersecurity assistance available to small businesses. The study must also identify any gaps in foundational cybersecurity concepts within current federal programs and provide recommendations to improve the effectiveness, awareness, and coordination of such initiatives.

This section requires GAO to submit a report containing its findings and recommendations to the House Committee on Small Business and the Senate Committee on Small Business and Entrepreneurship.

Section 3—Compliance with CUTGO

This section states that no additional amounts are authorized to carry out this Act.

VII. CONGRESSIONAL BUDGET OFFICE COST ESTIMATE

Pursuant to 3(c)(3) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee adopts as its own the cost estimate prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974. At the time this report was filed, the Committee has requested but not received a cost estimate from the Director of the Congressional Budget Office.

VIII. NEW BUDGET AUTHORITY, ENTITLEMENT AUTHORITY, AND TAX EXPENDITURES

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(2) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives and section 308(a)(I) of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee provides the following opinion and estimate with respect to new budget authority, entitlement authority, and tax expenditures. While the Committee has not received an estimate of new budget authority contained in the cost estimate prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 402 of the Congressional Budget Act of 1974, the Committee does not believe that there will be any new or increased costs attributable to this legislation.

IX. OVERSIGHT FINDINGS & RECOMMENDATIONS

In accordance with clause 3(c)(1) of rule XIII and clause 2(b)(1) of rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the oversight findings and recommendations of the Committee on Small Business with respect to the subject matter contained in H.R. 8880 are incorporated into the descriptive portions of this report.

X. PERFORMANCE GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

With respect to the requirements of clause 3(c)(4) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the goal of H.R. 8880 is to strengthen cybersecurity support and preparedness for small businesses.

XI. STATEMENT OF DUPLICATION OF FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Pursuant to clause 3(c)(5) of rule XIII of the Rules of the House of Representatives, no provision of H.R. 8880 is known to be duplicative of another Federal program, including any program that was included in a report to Congress pursuant to section 21 of Public Law 111–139 or the most recent Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance.

XII. CONGRESSIONAL EARMARKS, LIMITED TAX BENEFITS, AND LIMITED TARIFF BENEFITS

With respect to clause 9 of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee finds that the bill does not contain any congressional earmarks, limited tax benefits, or limited tariff benefits as defined in clause 9(e), 9(f), or 9(g) of rule XXI of the Rules of the House of Representatives.

XIII. FEDERAL MANDATES STATEMENT

The Committee will adopt as its own the estimate of the Federal mandates prepared by the Director of the Congressional Budget Office pursuant to section 423 of the Unfunded Mandates Reform Act.

XIV. FEDERAL ADVISORY COMMITTEE STATEMENT

No advisory committees within the meaning of section 5(b) of the Federal Advisory Committee Act were created by this legislation.

XV. APPLICABILITY TO LEGISLATIVE BRANCH

The Committee finds that the legislation does not relate to the terms and conditions of employment or access to public services or accommodations within the meaning of section 102(b)(3) of the Congressional Accountability Act.

XVI. STATEMENT OF CONSTITUTIONAL AUTHORITY

Pursuant to clause 7 of rule XII of the Rules of the House, the Committee finds that the authority for this legislation in Art. I, § 8, cl.1 of the Constitution of the United States.

XVII. MINORITY VIEWS

Digital tools and the Internet are critical for small businesses. During the COVID-19 pandemic, firms of all sizes increasingly adopted technology as work shifted to virtual environments. Today, according to the U.S. Chamber of Commerce (Chamber), 99 percent of small businesses use at least one technology platform, with 58 percent using at least four platforms.¹ However, only 25 percent of small businesses use cybersecurity and malware detection tools.² This lack of investment often occurs because unlike larger corporations, entrepreneurs and their staff lack the time, skills, and money to adopt effective cybersecurity measures. Cybercriminals are well aware of these vulnerabilities and exploit them at small businesses' expense.

Multiple federal entities have developed and provided cybersecurity resources for small businesses. However, the Committee has heard feedback that awareness of these resources varies, partly because they are not provided by the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA). While agencies certainly have the expertise to create cybersecurity resources, it can be difficult for them to have an impact on small businesses simply because those agencies lack a distribution network and experience to perform effective small business outreach. The SBA, in consultation with other relevant federal entities, is uniquely equipped to help small businesses on technical matters.

In 2015, the U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) conducted a study examining cybersecurity resources for small businesses in the defense industrial base, and the Defense Department's Office of Small Business Programs implemented its recommendation to "identify and disseminate cybersecurity resources to defense small businesses."³

In 2016, then-Representative Richard Hanna (R-NY), a Committee Member, introduced the bipartisan *Improving Small Business Cyber Security Act of 2016*,⁴ components of which were incorporated into the *National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year (FY) 2017*. The FY 2017 NDAA directed the SBA and Homeland Security Department (DHS) to develop a Small Business Development Center (SBDC) Cyber Strategy, and for SBDCs to provide cybersecurity counseling to small businesses.⁵

Under my leadership, the Committee approved the *Small Business Cyber Training Act of 2022*, which was enacted into law on

¹U.S. CHAMBER OF COM., EMPOWERING SMALL BUSINESS: THE IMPACT OF TECHNOLOGY ON U.S. SMALL BUSINESS, 4-6 (Aug. 18, 2025).

²*Id.*, at 5.

³U.S. GOV'T ACCOUNTABILITY OFF., GAO-15-777, *Defense Cybersecurity: Opportunities Exist for DOD to Share Cybersecurity Resources with Small Businesses* (Sept. 24, 2015).

⁴Improving Small Business Cyber Security Act of 2016, H.R. 5064, 114th Cong. (2016); 162 Cong. Rec. H5776-H5779 (daily ed. Sep. 21, 2016).

⁵National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017, Pub. L. No. 114-328, 130 Stat. 2000 (2016).

December 27, 2022. The Act requires the SBA to establish a program to certify at least 5 or 10 percent of employees in each lead SBDC to provide cybersecurity assistance to small businesses.⁶

The SBDCs are currently implementing the SBDC Cyber Strategy and beginning to provide cybersecurity counseling to small businesses.⁷ The Delaware SBDC launched the North Star program to certify SBDC staff nationwide to provide this counseling. Its offerings include both in-person and virtual training, and certifications must be renewed annually, to ensure staff are updated on new developments in cybersecurity. Since Fiscal Year 2024, North Star has certified 291 employees.⁸

NYDIA M. VELÁZQUEZ,
Ranking Member.



⁶Small Business Cyber Training Act of 2022, Pub. L. No. 117-319, 136 Stat. 4424 (codified at 15 U.S.C. 648 (2022)).

⁷CONG. RESEARCH SERV., IF12732, THE CYBERSECURITY FOR SMALL BUSINESS PILOT PROGRAM 1 (Aug. 7, 2024).

⁸DEL. SMALL BUS. DEV. CTR., CYBER AWARD Q3 NARRATIVE REPORT: APRIL 2025 THROUGH JUNE 2025 (2025) (on file with the H. COMM. ON SMALL BUS.).