

114TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 3295

To authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security to work with cybersecurity consortia for training, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 7, 2016

Mr. CORNYN introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security to work with cybersecurity consortia for training, and for other purposes.

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 “National Cybersecurity
5 Preparedness Consortium Act of 2016”.

6 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL CYBERSECURITY PREPAREDNESS CON-**
7 **SORTIUM.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Secu-
9 rity may work with a consortium, including the National
10 Cybersecurity Preparedness Consortium, to support ef-

1 forts to address cybersecurity risks and incidents (as such
2 terms are defined in section 227 of the Homeland Security
3 Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 148)), including threats of ter-
4 rorism and acts of terrorism.

5 (b) ASSISTANCE TO THE NCCIC.—The Secretary of
6 Homeland Security may work with a consortium to assist
7 the national cybersecurity and communications integration
8 center of the Department of Homeland Security (estab-
9 lished pursuant to section 227 of the Homeland Security
10 Act of 2002) to—

11 (1) provide training to State and local first re-
12 sponders and officials specifically for preparing for
13 and responding to cybersecurity risks and incidents,
14 including threats of terrorism and acts of terrorism,
15 in accordance with current law;

16 (2) develop and update a curriculum utilizing
17 existing programs and models in accordance with
18 such section 227, for State and local first responders
19 and officials, related to cybersecurity risks and inci-
20 dents, including threats of terrorism and acts of ter-
21 rorism;

22 (3) provide technical assistance services to build
23 and sustain capabilities in support of preparedness
24 for and response to cybersecurity risks and inci-

dents, including threats of terrorism and acts of terrorism, in accordance with such section 227;

(4) conduct cross-sector cybersecurity training and simulation exercises for entities, including State and local governments, critical infrastructure owners and operators, and private industry, to encourage community-wide coordination in defending against and responding to cybersecurity risks and incidents, including threats of terrorism and acts of terrorism, in accordance with subsection (c) of section 228 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 149);

(5) help States and communities develop cybersecurity information sharing programs, in accordance with section 227 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, for the dissemination of homeland security information related to cybersecurity risks and incidents, including threats of terrorism and acts of terrorism; and

(6) help incorporate cybersecurity risk and incident prevention and response (including related to threats of terrorism and acts of terrorism) into existing State and local emergency plans, including continuity of operations plans.

(c) PROHIBITION ON DUPLICATION.—In carrying out the functions under subsection (b), the Secretary of

1 Homeland Security shall, to the greatest extent prac-
2 ticable, seek to prevent unnecessary duplication of existing
3 programs or efforts of the Department of Homeland Secu-
4 rity.

5 (d) CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING SELECTION OF A
6 CONSORTIUM.—In selecting a consortium with which to
7 work under this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security
8 shall take into consideration the following:

9 (1) Any prior experience conducting cybersecu-
10 rity training and exercises for State and local enti-
11 ties.

12 (2) Geographic diversity of the members of any
13 such consortium so as to cover different regions
14 across the United States.

15 (e) METRICS.—If the Secretary of Homeland Secu-
16 rity works with a consortium pursuant to subsection (a),
17 the Secretary shall measure the effectiveness of the activi-
18 ties undertaken by such consortium under this Act.

19 (f) OUTREACH.—The Secretary of Homeland Secu-
20 rity shall conduct outreach to universities and colleges, in-
21 cluding historically Black colleges and universities, His-
22 panic-serving institutions, Tribal Colleges and Univer-
23 sities, and other minority-serving institutions, regarding
24 opportunities to support efforts to address cybersecurity
25 risks and incidents, including threats of terrorism and acts

1 of terrorism, by working with the Secretary pursuant to
2 subsection (a).

3 (g) TERMINATION.—The authority to carry out this
4 Act shall terminate on the date that is 5 years after the
5 date of the enactment of this Act.

6 (h) CONSORTIUM DEFINED.—In this Act, the term
7 “consortium” means a group primarily composed of non-
8 profit entities, including academic institutions, that de-
9 velop, update, and deliver cybersecurity training in sup-
10 port of homeland security.

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