

116TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 4920

To improve the cybsersecurity of small organizations with respect to teleworking, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 18, 2020

Ms. ROSEN (for herself and Mr. MORAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To improve the cybsersecurity of small organizations with respect to teleworking, 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 “Improving Telework
5 Cybersecurity for Small Organizations Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. SMALL ORGANIZATION TELEWORK CYBERSECURITY.**
7

8 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

9 (1) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission”
10 means the Federal Trade Commission.

1 (2) CORONAVIRUS PUBLIC HEALTH EMER-
2 GENCY.—The term “coronavirus public health emer-
3 gency” means the public health emergency declared
4 by the Secretary of Health and Human Services
5 pursuant to section 319 of the Public Health Service
6 Act (42 U.S.C. 247d) on January 31, 2020, as a re-
7 sult of confirmed cases of COVID–19.

8 (3) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means
9 the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure
10 Security Agency.

11 (4) SMALL BUSINESS.—The term “small busi-
12 ness” has the meaning given the term “small busi-
13 ness concern” in section 3 of the Small Business Act
14 (15 U.S.C. 632) and any associated regulations pro-
15 mulgated by the Administrator of the Small Busi-
16 ness Administration.

17 (5) SMALL GOVERNMENTAL JURISDICTION.—
18 The term “small governmental jurisdiction” means
19 governments of cities, counties, towns, townships,
20 villages, school districts, or special districts, with a
21 population of less than 50,000.

22 (6) SMALL NONPROFIT.—The term “small non-
23 profit” means any not-for-profit enterprise that is
24 independently owned and operated and is not domi-
25 nant in its field.

1 (7) SMALL ORGANIZATION.—The term “small
2 organization” means organizations unlikely to em-
3 ploy a specialist in cybersecurity, including—

4 (A) a small business;

5 (B) a small nonprofit; and

6 (C) a small governmental jurisdiction.

7 (b) CYBERSECURITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE SECU-
8 RITY AGENCY TELEWORK GUIDANCE FOR SMALL ORGA-
9 NIZATIONS.—

10 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 45 days after
11 the date of enactment of this Act, the Director, in
12 consultation with the Commission, shall publish a re-
13 source on the website of the Cybersecurity and In-
14 frastructure Security Agency describing best prac-
15 tices a small organization may take to improve cy-
16 bersecurity with respect to teleworking.

17 (2) CONTENTS.—The resource required under
18 paragraph (1) shall—

19 (A) include basic steps that have the most
20 impact in improving the security of teleworking
21 for a small organization;

22 (B) recommend, as practicable, configura-
23 tions and settings for commonly used software
24 that can improve the cybersecurity of small or-
25 ganizations with increased teleworking; and

1 (C) be consistent with—

2 (i) relevant standards and guidelines
3 published by the Director of the National
4 Institute of Standards and Technology;

5 (ii) guidance from the Director enti-
6 tled “Telework Guidance and Resources”,
7 issued on April 24, 2020, or any successor
8 guidance; and

9 (iii) Alert (AA20–073A) regarding
10 Enterprise VPN Security issued by the Di-
11 rector on March 13, 2020, or any suc-
12 cessor guidance.

13 (c) FEDERAL TRADE COMMISSION PROGRAM TO AS-
14 SIST CYBERSECURITY EFFORTS.—Not later than 30 days
15 after the publishing of the resource required under sub-
16 section (b), the Commission, in coordination with the Di-
17 rector, shall establish a program—

18 (1) to educate consumers and small organiza-
19 tions on improving the cybersecurity of the tech-
20 nologies increasingly used for distance learning, tele-
21 medicine, and telework as a result of the coronavirus
22 public health emergency; and

23 (2) that shall be consistent with the resource
24 required under subsection (b).

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