

Mr. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman very much for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, I am offering a bill tonight, H.R. 2816, the Computer Crime Enforcement Act of 2000, which was introduced by the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SALMON).

The bill would authorize \$25 million in grants to be awarded by the Department of Justice to local law enforcement agencies in order to assist them in combatting computer crime. Crime committed by computers is one of the most rapidly growing areas. With ever-innovating computers come new innovations and crimes committed by those computers.

Of course, to fight this crime, law enforcement agencies must have equipment that is equal of that used by criminals and the training to effectively use that equipment. Much of the investigation of this type of crime has been done at the Federal level, but there is simply not sufficient resources for the Federal Government to do all the work.

State and local law enforcement agencies stand ready to investigate these crimes but often the financial resources are lacking to do so. This bill will help address the problem.

According to a recent report released by the FBI and the Computer Security Institute, 32 percent of companies surveyed required assistance from law enforcement agencies, up 17 percent from the prior year. And according to a recent report by the San Francisco Computer Security Institute, nearly a third of U.S. companies, financial institutions and Government agencies and universities say their computer systems were penetrated by outsiders last year.

A recent poll conducted by the Information Technology Association of America found that 61 percent of consumers questioned are less likely to shop over the Internet as a result of a rise in cyber crimes.

Mr. Speaker, we simply cannot allow this type of crime to hinder a robust expansion in this new area of commerce. The bill before us will help put more law enforcement agencies on the trail of these criminals. It will make our business in other commercial activities more secure. And so, I strongly urge support of the bill.

As introduced, it authorizes award of grants from fiscal year 2002 to 2003. Because we are now well into the 2000 fiscal year, the amendment that I offer will start the 4-year authorization in fiscal year 2001.

I want to thank the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SALMON) for his leadership in introducing this bill. I urge my colleagues to support it.

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the bill, as follows:

H.R. 2816

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Computer Crime Enforcement Act".

SEC. 2. STATE GRANT PROGRAM FOR TRAINING AND PROSECUTION OF COMPUTER CRIMES.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subject to the availability of amounts provided in advance in appropriations Acts, the Office of Justice Programs shall make a grant to each State, which shall be used by the State, in conjunction with units of local government, State and local courts, other States, or combinations thereof in accordance with subsection (b).

(b) USE OF GRANT AMOUNTS.—Grants under this section may be used to establish and develop programs to—

(1) assist State and local law enforcement agencies in enforcing State and local criminal laws relating to computer crime;

(2) assist State and local law enforcement agencies in educating the public to prevent and identify computer crime;

(3) educate and train State and local law enforcement officers and prosecutors to conduct investigations and forensic analyses of evidence and prosecutions of computer crime;

(4) assist State and local law enforcement officers and prosecutors in acquiring computer and other equipment to conduct investigations and forensic analysis of evidence of computer crimes; and

(5) facilitate and promote the sharing of Federal law enforcement expertise and information about the investigation, analysis, and prosecution of computer crimes with State and local law enforcement officers and prosecutors, including the use of multijurisdictional task forces.

(c) ASSURANCES.—To be eligible to receive a grant under this section, a State shall provide assurances to the Attorney General that the State—

(1) has in effect laws that penalize computer crime, such as criminal laws prohibiting—

(A) fraudulent schemes executed by means of a computer system or network;

(B) the unlawful damaging, destroying, altering, deleting, removing of computer software, or data contained in a computer, computer system, computer program, or computer network; or

(C) the unlawful interference with the operation of or denial of access to a computer, computer program, computer system, or computer network;

(2) an assessment of the State and local resource needs, including criminal justice resources being devoted to the investigation and enforcement of computer crime laws; and

(3) a plan for coordinating the programs funded under this section with other federally funded technical assistant and training programs, including directly funded local programs such as the Local Law Enforcement Block Grant program (described under the heading "Violent Crime Reduction Programs, State and Local Law Enforcement Assistance" of the Departments of Commerce, Justice, and State, the Judiciary, and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 1998 (Public Law 105-119)).

(d) MATCHING FUNDS.—The Federal share of a grant received under this section may not exceed 90 percent of the costs of a program or proposal funded under this section unless the Attorney General waives, wholly or in part, the requirements of this subsection.

(e) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized to be appropriated to carry out this section \$25,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2000 through 2003.

(2) LIMITATIONS.—Of the amount made available to carry out this section in any fiscal year not more than 3 percent may be used by the Attorney General for salaries and administrative expenses.

(3) MINIMUM AMOUNT.—Unless all eligible applications submitted by any State or unit of local government within such State for a grant under this section have been funded, such State, together with grantees within the State (other than Indian tribes), shall be allocated in each fiscal year under this section not less than 0.75 percent of the total amount appropriated in the fiscal year for grants pursuant to this section, except that the United States Virgin Islands, American Samoa, Guam, and the Northern Mariana Islands each shall be allocated 0.25 percent.

(f) GRANTS TO INDIAN TRIBES.—Notwithstanding any other provision of this section, the Attorney General may use amounts made available under this section to make grants to Indian tribes for use in accordance with this section.

AMENDMENT OFFERED BY MR. MCCOLLUM

Mr. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chairman, I offer an amendment.

The Clerk read as follows:

Amendment offered by Mr. MCCOLLUM:

Page 4, line 17, strike "2000 through 2003" and insert the following: "2001 through 2004".

Mr. MCCOLLUM (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the amendment be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

The amendment was agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1900

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days within which to revise and extend their remarks on H.R. 2816.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PEASE). Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

AMENDING CHARTER OF AMVETS ORGANIZATION

Mr. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the bill (H.R. 604) to amend the charter of the AMVETS organization, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I yield to the gentleman for an explanation of the bill.

Mr. MCCOLLUM. I thank the gentleman from Virginia (Mr. SCOTT) for yielding to me on this bill.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 604 would amend the Federal charter for the American Veterans of World War II, Korea and Vietnam, the AMVETS. At the 1998 AMVETS annual convention, the delegates voted to change the name of the American Veterans of World War II, Korea and Vietnam to American Veterans to more accurately reflect the membership of AMVETS.

AMVETS membership now includes not only veterans from those three wars but also anyone who served honorably after 1940 and national guardsmen and reservists. At that convention, the AMVETS also voted to change the structure of their governing body. H.R. 604 contains language to reflect the structure change in the statute.

Also, because AMVETS moved the location of their headquarters from the District of Columbia to Lanham, Maryland, the headquarters and principal place of business section of their charter needs to be changed to indicate that they are now located in Maryland. In order for these changes to be recognized by the Department of Veterans Affairs, the AMVETS Federal charter must be amended.

There were technical errors in the original bill. The committee amendment that we have changed the headquarters location from the Baltimore-Washington area to Maryland because a federally chartered organization must be incorporated in a specific State or the District of Columbia. Additionally, there were errors in the governing body language. That provision has been changed to accurately reflect the structure agreed to by the convention. And so I urge this corrective bill, which is what it is, to be passed.

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for his explanation.

Mr. Speaker, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the bill, as follows:

H.R. 604

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. AMENDMENTS TO AMVETS CHARTER.

(a) NAME OF ORGANIZATION.—(1) Sections 22701(a) and 22706 of title 36, United States Code, are amended by striking “AMVETS (American Veterans of World War II, Korea, and Vietnam)” and inserting “AMVETS (American Veterans)”.

(2)(A) The heading of chapter 227 of such title is amended to read as follows:

“CHAPTER 227—AMVETS (AMERICAN VETERANS)”.

(B) The item relating to such chapter in the table of chapters at the beginning of subtitle II of such title is amended to read as follows:

“227. AMVETS (AMERICAN VETERANS) 22701”.

(b) GOVERNING BODY.—Section 22704(c)(1) of such title is amended by striking “seven national vice commanders” and all that follows

through “a judge advocate,” and inserting “two national vice commanders, a finance officer, a judge advocate, a deputy judge advocate, a chaplain, a VAVS representative, six national district commanders,”.

(c) HEADQUARTERS AND PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS.—Section 22708 of such title is amended—

(1) by striking “the District of Columbia” in the first sentence and inserting “the Washington/Baltimore Metropolitan area”; and

(2) by striking “the District of Columbia” in the second sentence and inserting “that metropolitan area”.

COMMITTEE AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE OFFERED BY MR. MCCOLLUM

Mr. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I offer a committee amendment in the nature of a substitute.

The Clerk read as follows:

Committee amendment in the nature of a substitute offered by Mr. MCCOLLUM:

Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENTS TO AMVETS CHARTER.

(a) NAME OF ORGANIZATION.—(1) Sections 22701(a) and 22706 of title 36, United States Code, are amended by striking “AMVETS (American Veterans of World War II, Korea, and Vietnam)” and inserting “AMVETS (American Veterans)”.

(2)(A) The heading of chapter 227 of such title is amended to read as follows:

“CHAPTER 227—AMVETS (AMERICAN VETERANS)”.

(B) The item relating to such chapter in the table of chapters at the beginning of subtitle II of such title is amended to read as follows:

“227. AMVETS (AMERICAN VETERANS) 22701”.

(b) GOVERNING BODY.—Section 22704(c)(1) of such title is amended by striking “seven national vice commanders” and all that follows through “a judge advocate,” and inserting “two national vice commanders and six national district commanders, at least one of whom shall be a woman, a finance officer, a judge advocate, a chaplain,”.

(c) HEADQUARTERS AND PRINCIPAL PLACE OF BUSINESS.—Section 22708 of such title is amended—

(1) by striking “the District of Columbia” in the first sentence and inserting “Maryland”; and

(2) by striking “the District of Columbia” in the second sentence and inserting “Maryland”.

Mr. MCCOLLUM (during the reading). Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the committee amendment in the nature of a substitute be considered as read and printed in the RECORD.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

The committee amendment in the nature of a substitute was agreed to.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

INTERNET FALSE IDENTIFICATION PREVENTION ACT OF 2000

Mr. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent to take from the Speaker's table the Senate bill (S. 2924) to strengthen the enforcement of Federal statutes relating to false identification, and for other purposes, and

ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the Senate bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Speaker, reserving the right to object, I yield to the gentleman to explain the purpose of the bill and his proposed amendment.

Mr. MCCOLLUM. I thank the gentleman for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, S. 2924, the Internet False Identification Prevention Act of 2000, which passed the other body by unanimous consent on October 31, 2000, concerns something that is very important to us. Over the last several years, Congress has become increasingly aware of the problem of crime committed by persons who use the identity of others to obtain goods and services. In fact, in 1998 Congress passed the Identity Theft and Assumption Deterrence Act of 1998 to toughen our laws against this type of crime.

S. 2924 recognizes that the crime of identity theft has entered the Internet Age and it makes important improvements to our laws against the distribution and use of false identification documents. Our current laws have unfortunately done little to stop a growing Internet market in every imaginable type of false identification. S. 2924 will put a stop to this widespread distribution of false identification, which can be used to commit identity theft, serious financial crimes, and to facilitate the underage purchase of alcohol and tobacco. The new law will make it clear that it is a crime to transfer false identification documents by electronic means, and that those documents can be in the form of computer files, disks or templates. S. 2924 will also close a loophole in current law that permits manufacturers of false identification documents to escape liability.

I am offering an amendment, in consultation with Senator COLLINS, that addresses several concerns that were raised by the intellectual property community after the bill passed the other body. The amendment deletes the section of the bill that had caused those concerns.

Mr. Speaker, Congress must do all it can to fight the growing incidence of identity thefts and the criminals who use the Internet to make it easy to create false identification documents. S. 2924 will make needed changes to current law. I urge my colleagues to support this bill.

Mr. SCOTT. Mr. Speaker, reclaiming my time, based on the explanation of the bill and the amendment, I withdraw my reservation of objection.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from Florida?

There was no objection.

The Clerk read the Senate bill, as follows:

S. 2924

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,