

other care and must receive that care immediately. Thus far, some bureaucratic roadblocks to the provision of care have been removed—but there is no excuse for any to remain. They must be dismantled. And new ones must not be erected.

Above all, there can be no slowing down, in the investigation into AHIIs and in the treatment of AHI victims and their families. To do so would risk signaling—to those individuals, to the broader IC workforce, and to the wider world—that, though it prioritized the issue most highly for a discrete time, the United States is “moving on” from AHIIs.

That cannot be allowed to happen. And the Committees will continue to conduct vigorous oversight, to prevent it from happening.

PART III: UNCLASSIFIED CONGRESSIONAL DIRECTION

This Joint Explanatory Statement incorporates by reference, and the Executive Branch shall comply with, all direction contained in the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence Report to accompany the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (S. Rept. 117-37) and in the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence Report to accompany the Intelligence Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2022 (H. Rept. 117-156).

The Executive Branch is further directed as follows:

Assessment of Intelligence Community Counter-narcotics Capabilities

The Committees direct the Director of National Intelligence, in consultation with such other Federal Government entities as the Director determines appropriate, to submit an assessment to the congressional intelligence committees within 120 days of enactment of this Act, on the status of the Intelligence Community’s (1) counternarcotics capabilities and resourcing with regard to intelligence collection and analysis; (2) operational support to foreign liaison partners; and (3) operational capacity to support the counteractions mission of the Federal Government. The assessment shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

Assessment of Intelligence Community’s Intelligence-Sharing Relationships with Latin American Partners in Counternarcotics.

The Committees direct the Director of National Intelligence, in consultation with such other Federal Government entities as the Director determines appropriate, to submit an assessment to the congressional intelligence committees within 120 days of enactment of this Act, on the intelligence-sharing relationships of the Intelligence Community with foreign partners in Latin America on counternarcotics matters. The assessment shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

Report on Intelligence Community Support to Visas Mantis Program

The Committees direct the Director of National Intelligence, in consultation with such other Federal Government entities as the Director determines appropriate, to submit a report to the congressional intelligence committees within 120 days of enactment of this Act, on intelligence matters relating to the Visas Mantis program, including efforts by (1) the Intelligence Community to provide and plan for effective intelligence support to such program; and (2) hostile intelligence services to exploit such program or any other program by which visas for admission to the United States are issued. The report shall be submitted in unclassified form but may include a classified annex, as necessary.

Assessment and Report on Interagency Communication Relating to Efforts to Address Anomalous Health Incidents

The Committees direct the Director of National Intelligence to (1) conduct an assessment of how the various elements of the Intelligence Community are coordinating or collaborating with each other and with elements of the Federal Government that are not part of the Intelligence Community in their efforts to address anomalous health incidents, and (2) submit a report to the congressional intelligence committees within 180 days of enactment of this Act on the findings of the Director with respect to the assessment. The report submitted pursuant to subsection shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

Reporting on Occurrence of Anomalous Health Incidents

The Committees direct that, whenever the head of an element of the Intelligence Community becomes aware of a report of an anomalous health incident occurring among the employees or contractors of the element, no later than 90 days after each incident, the head of the element shall submit to the congressional intelligence committees a brief report on the reported incident. The Committees further direct that this reporting requirement shall cease upon joint notice from the congressional intelligence committees to the Director of National Intelligence.

Report on Cooperation by Intelligence Agencies of Key Democratic Countries Regarding Technological Competition with China

The Committees direct the Director of National Intelligence to submit a report to the congressional intelligence committees within 180 days of enactment of this Act, on the status of current cooperation among the intelligence agencies of key democratic countries and key partners and allies of the United States in order to track and analyze the following:

1. Technology capabilities and gaps among allied and partner countries of the United States;
2. Current capabilities of China in critical technologies and components;
3. The efforts of China to buy startups, conduct joint ventures, and invest in specific technologies globally;
4. The technology development of China in key technology sectors;
5. The efforts of China relating to standard-setting forums; and
6. Supply chain vulnerabilities for key technology sectors;

The Committees further direct that the report shall include a plan to address any deficiencies identified in the report with respect to the cooperation described in such subsection and suggested areas for increased cooperation.

STEM Technology Fellowship

The Committees direct the Office of the Director of National Intelligence, in coordination with the Central Intelligence Agency, the National Security Agency, the Defense Intelligence Agency, the National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency, the National Reconnaissance Office, and any other relevant Intelligence Community elements, to conduct and present to the congressional intelligence committees, within 180 days after enactment of this Act, a feasibility study examining the benefits of creating a Science, Technology, Engineering, Math (STEM) fellowship for the Intelligence Community, and whether such a fellowship would help alleviate the Intelligence Community’s workforce shortages and retention challenges in STEM fields. The study shall include:

1. A comprehensive assessment of the IC’s current and future workforce needs in high

demand STEM fields, such as data science, cybersecurity, computer network exploitation, software development, and artificial intelligence/machine learning, including:

- a. An assessment of whether the Intelligence Community’s current positions and career categories are sufficient to track and retain high demand STEM employees, and
- b. An assessment of workforce needs by grade, category, and position descriptions.
2. An overview of Intelligence Community programs aimed at developing and recruiting new and mid-career hires in STEM fields;
3. Proposed timelines for converting fellows and interns to permanent employees;
4. Mechanisms by which the Intelligence Community could use such a fellowship or internship to address shortfalls in diversity among the workforce; and
5. An assessment of the authorities and resources required to establish an Intelligence Community-wide STEM technology fellowship.

CYBER INCIDENT REPORTING FOR CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE

Mr. WARNER. Madam President, I rise today in support of the Cyber Incident Reporting for Critical Infrastructure Act of 2022, which is included as division Y in the Senate amendment to H.R. 2471, the Consolidated Appropriations Act of 2022. Cyber attacks and ransomware attacks are a serious national security threat that have affected everything from our energy sector to the Federal Government and Americans’ own sensitive information. The SolarWinds breach demonstrated how broad the ripple effects of these attacks can be, affecting hundreds or even thousands of entities connected to the initial target. As cyber and ransomware attacks continue to increase, the Federal Government must be able to quickly coordinate a response and hold bad actors accountable.

Especially now, as the threat of Russian cyber attacks looms in light of Putin’s horrific invasion of Ukraine, we shouldn’t be relying on voluntary reporting to protect our crucial infrastructure. The Federal Government needs to know when vital sectors of our economy are affected by a breach so that the full resources of the Federal Government can be mobilized to respond and mitigate their impacts.

This bipartisan bill will take significant steps to strengthen cybersecurity protections, ensure that CISA is at the forefront of our Nation’s response to serious breaches, and most importantly, require timely reporting of these attacks to the Federal Government so that we can better prevent future incidents and hold attackers accountable.

The plain text of the statute makes Congress’ intent clear: although the reports themselves—and any “communication[s], document[s], material[s], or other record[s] created for the sole purpose of preparing, drafting or submitting” those reports—may not be received in evidence, the FBI and other law enforcement entities nevertheless may, as appropriate,

make use of reported information in their investigations of a cyber incident. In other words, the FBI cannot attach the report filed with CISA in a warrant application or submit it in evidence in a trial but, if provided information from reports under the process outlined in the statute, may as appropriate use information contained in the reports and derived from them for a range of purposes, including getting a warrant and prosecuting bad actors. Further, this statute also is not intended to prohibit or discourage entities from reporting to CISA and law enforcement concurrently.

The language of this bill makes clear that the information may be used for cybersecurity or investigative purposes. Section 2245 clearly states that reports submitted to CISA under this provision can be used for “the purpose of preventing, investigating, disrupting, or prosecuting an offense arising out of a cyber incident reported pursuant to [the bill’s requirements or voluntary provisions].” Nor are facts developed during an FBI investigation of the relevant cyber incident using other authorities, including similar facts that may also have been disclosed to the Federal Government in the report to CISA, “communication[s], document[s], material[s], or other record[s]” subject to the evidentiary restrictions in 2245(c)(3).

Such actions by the FBI to hold accountable, disrupt, or deter perpetrators of cyber attacks are consistent with our goal of encouraging entities to disclose cyber incidents to CISA, which will share the information appropriately with other Federal agencies. As stakeholders work through the rulemaking process, we look forward to working with them to ensure that congressional intent is not misinterpreted and that this legislation is implemented as intended.

This balance ensures both that entities are encouraged to and feel protected in disclosing cyber incidents and that law enforcement agencies may make full use of evidence, gathered through a variety of means, needed to detect, disrupt, and deter perpetrators of attacks.

VOTE EXPLANATION

Mr. HAWLEY. Mr. President, had there been a recorded vote, I would have voted no on the confirmation of Executive Calendar No. 776, Peter J. Beshar, of New York, to be General Counsel of the Department of the Air Force.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENTS

VERMONT STATE OF THE UNION ESSAY CONTEST

• Mr. SANDERS. Madam President, since 2010, I have sponsored a State of the Union essay contest for Vermont high school students. This contest

gives students in my State the opportunity to articulate what issues they would prioritize if they were President of the United States.

This is the contest’s 12th year, and I would like to congratulate the 409 students who participated. It is truly heartening to see so many young people engaged in finding solutions for the problems that face our country. To my mind, this is what democracy is all about.

I am very proud to enter into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD the essays submitted by these Vermont high school students.

The material follows:

WINNER, SASHA LANN, BRATTLEBORO UNION HIGH SCHOOL, SOPHOMORE

Citizens’ rights to vote may be the most fundamental aspect of our democracy, but there is a growing effort to limit it. Increasing voter suppression and restrictive voting laws is an issue that must be addressed, as it has grown from a gradual build to a rush of constant new legislation that could do permanent damage if ignored. Voter suppression is one of the United States’ biggest threats to democracy, and the way to address it may be to enact legislation that ensures all Americans have equal access to voting and have their votes counted.

Recently, the United States has seen a massive uptick in legislation restricting voting in large sections of the country. In 2021 alone, 99 bills were introduced in 31 states to restrict voting. 34 were passed into law. The laws strengthen ID requirements, limit drop boxes and mail voting, increase opportunities for voter purges, and introduce criminal penalties for election officers who help voters return mail ballots. These laws excessively target BIPOC communities. Young voters are also made vulnerable by this legislation. This attack on our voting system, though disproportionately affecting communities of color, will harm the entire country and make us vulnerable to authoritarianism and the collapse of our democracy altogether.

Enacting effective voting rights legislation can be a lengthy and difficult process. There are already bills in progress that have passed the House, but are being blocked by Republicans via the filibuster. As soon as the filibuster can be changed, we can continue to make progress. In the meantime, the best solution may be to do what we can to prevent lawmakers from signing more restrictive legislation into law. Part of this solution relies on companies ending support and campaign contributions for lawmakers responsible for this legislation. Companies and businesses could play an essential role in standing up to these efforts. However, community and business support will not be enough to prevent suppressive legislation for long.

There are several solutions that could stop the onslaught of voter restriction laws long term, starting with federal legislation to protect voting rights and remove obstacles for those facing difficulty casting votes. There should be laws to enforce automatic registration, restore voter rights for former prisoners, and increase resources for election boards to ensure security. Election Day could also be made a holiday so citizens have free time to vote, and each state should set up independent redistricting commissions to avoid gerrymandering. If used together, these methods will greatly improve access to voting. Voter suppression and restrictive voting laws are threatening the integrity of our democracy, and we can counteract them

by passing legislation that protects citizens’ say in the course of the country through their votes. If nothing is done, we may see the fall of our democracy as we know it. These are the steps needed to be taken to preserve this cornerstone of our country.

SECOND PLACE, EVA FRAZIER, CHAMPLAIN VALLEY UNION HIGH SCHOOL, SENIOR

In the past few months, millions of people have lost rights over their bodies, their health, and their futures. As countless states across the country move to almost totally limit abortion, I fear for all people who may become pregnant in these affected areas. I fear for those without money to travel to obtain a safe abortion, for those expectant mothers experiencing a medical condition forced to choose between their life or their child’s, and for the youth without proper education, suddenly finding themselves with no choice over their lives.

Two things happen when politicians ban or block abortions: unsafe abortions or children being born to people who can’t take care of them. Many will die, and it is almost always poor, BIPOC, and marginalized people. The state of reproductive rights in this country is an aggressive violation of human rights.

To combat the alarming issues affecting reproductive rights locally, nationally, and internationally, I would propose a three-tiered approach to provide reproductive services to all who need them. First, at the state level, Vermont needs to amend our state Constitution, and protect the right to abortion, without barrier, forever. If Vermont state legislators succeed in passing this amendment, currently known as Prop 5, Vermont will become the first state to protect the right to reproductive health care access. In addition to legally protecting the right to abortion, Vermont state legislators must increase the budget for health care centers that perform abortions.

Nationally, Congress must pass two pieces of legislation. First, Congress must repeal the Hyde Amendment. As the ACLU states, “Passed by Congress in 1976, the Hyde Amendment excludes abortion from the comprehensive health care services provided to low-income people by the Federal Government through Medicaid.” Low-income people are the least likely to have transportation and funds to obtain an abortion, and the Hyde amendment keeps low income people from having equal access to determine their futures.

Reproductive rights are not only at stake nationally, but internationally. Currently, the U.S. will not fund any international health care centers that provide abortions, which often then prohibits them from providing lifesaving treatments for malaria, HIV/AIDS, and other medical care. This draconian policy, known as the Global Gag Rule, was first introduced by President Reagan, and recently reinstated by President Trump. U.S. congressional representatives have a duty to pass legislation, known as the Global HER Act, that would overturn the Global Gag Rule, and cement the U.S. as a country that provides necessary foreign aid, instead of risking millions of lives.

As people turn to illegal abortions, it is crucial that lawmakers work to protect their citizens by passing federal law and upholding the International Human Rights declaration, giving humans freedom over their bodies and health care choices.

THIRD PLACE, SAMUEL LEGGETT, WOODSTOCK UNION HIGH SCHOOL, JUNIOR

Throughout history, America has been plagued with the complex issue of food insecurity. Moreover, the children of our nation—the ambassadors to our future—seem to experience it more severely. According to Feeding America, one in every eight adults