

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

NTIA POLICY AND CYBERSECURITY COORDINATION ACT

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1766) to amend the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act to establish the Office of Policy Development and Cybersecurity, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1766

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 “NTIA Policy and Cybersecurity Coordination Act”.

SEC. 2. POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND CYBERSECURITY.

(a) OFFICE OF POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND CYBERSECURITY.—Part A of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration Organization Act (47 U.S.C. 901 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following:

“SEC. 106. OFFICE OF POLICY DEVELOPMENT AND CYBERSECURITY.

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There shall be within the NTIA an office to be known as the Office of Policy Development and Cybersecurity (in this section referred to as the ‘Office’).

“(b) ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR.—The head of the Office shall be an Associate Administrator for Policy Development and Cybersecurity (in this section referred to as the ‘Associate Administrator’), who shall report to the Assistant Secretary.

“(c) DUTIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Associate Administrator shall oversee and conduct national communications and information policy analysis and development for the internet and communications technologies.

“(2) PARTICULAR DUTIES.—In carrying out paragraph (1), the Associate Administrator shall—

“(A) develop, analyze, and advocate for market-based policies that promote innovation, competition, consumer access, digital inclusion, workforce development, and economic growth in the communications, media, and technology markets;

“(B) conduct studies, as delegated by the Assistant Secretary or required by Congress, on how individuals in the United States access and use the internet, wireline and wireless telephony, mass media, other digital services, and video services;

“(C) coordinate transparent, consensus-based, multistakeholder processes to create guidance for and to support the development and implementation of cybersecurity and privacy policies with respect to the internet and other communications networks;

“(D) promote increased collaboration between security researchers and providers of communications services and software system developers;

“(E) perform such duties as the Assistant Secretary considers appropriate relating to the program for preventing future vulnerabilities established under section 8(a) of the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act of 2019 (47 U.S.C. 1607(a));

“(F) advocate for policies that promote the security and resilience to cybersecurity inci-

dents of communications networks while fostering innovation, including policies that promote secure communications network supply chains;

“(G) at the direction of the Assistant Secretary, present security of the digital economy and infrastructure and cybersecurity policy efforts before the Commission, Congress, and elsewhere;

“(H) provide advice and assistance to the Assistant Secretary in carrying out the policy responsibilities of the NTIA with respect to cybersecurity policy matters, including the evaluation of the impact of cybersecurity matters pending before the Commission, other Federal agencies, and Congress;

“(I) in addition to the duties described in subparagraph (H), perform such other duties regarding the policy responsibilities of the NTIA with respect to cybersecurity policy matters as the Assistant Secretary considers appropriate;

“(J) develop policies to accelerate innovation and commercialization with respect to advances in technological understanding of communications technologies;

“(K) identify barriers to trust, security, innovation, and commercialization with respect to communications technologies, including access to capital and other resources, and ways to overcome such barriers;

“(L) provide public access to relevant data, research, and technical assistance on innovation and commercialization with respect to communications technologies, consistent with the protection of classified information;

“(M) strengthen collaboration on and coordination of policies relating to innovation and commercialization with respect to communications technologies, including policies focused on the needs of small businesses and rural communities—

“(i) within the Department of Commerce;

“(ii) between the Department of Commerce and State government agencies, as appropriate; and

“(iii) between the Department of Commerce and the Commission or any other Federal agency the Assistant Secretary determines to be necessary; and

“(N) solicit and consider feedback from small and rural communications service providers, as appropriate.”.

(b) TRANSITIONAL RULES.—

(1) REDESIGNATION OF ASSOCIATE ADMINISTRATOR; CONTINUATION OF SERVICE.—

(A) REDESIGNATION.—The position of Associate Administrator for Policy Analysis and Development at the NTIA is hereby redesignated as the position of Associate Administrator for Policy Development and Cybersecurity.

(B) CONTINUATION OF SERVICE.—The individual serving as Associate Administrator for Policy Analysis and Development at the NTIA on the date of the enactment of this Act shall become, as of such date, the Associate Administrator for Policy Development and Cybersecurity.

(2) NTIA DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term “NTIA” means the National Telecommunications and Information Administration.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. PALLONE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Ohio.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and in-

clude extraneous material in the RECORD on the bill.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1766, the NTIA Policy and Cybersecurity Coordination Act, led by the gentleman from California's 23rd District and the gentlewoman from Virginia's Fourth District.

Cyber threats, whether originating from state actors, criminal organizations, or malicious hackers, pose significant risks to our national security, economy, and the privacy of our citizens.

The increasing frequency and sophistication of cyberattacks, like we saw last year in the Salt Typhoon attack, underscores the urgency of addressing this ever-evolving challenge.

The NTIA Policy and Cybersecurity Coordination Act bolsters our Nation's cybersecurity posture by strengthening the coordination between the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, NTIA, and other relevant Federal agencies. Additionally, the bill renames the existing NTIA Office of Policy Analysis and Development to the Office of Policy Development and Cybersecurity and codifies the existing activities of the office.

H.R. 1766 seeks to promote effective information sharing, collaboration, and response efforts established in the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act. The legislation also facilitates public-private partnerships to develop and implement cybersecurity policies relating to communication networks.

By encouraging collaboration between government agencies and stakeholders, we can work together to address cyber threats and vulnerabilities more effectively.

Mr. Speaker, this bipartisan legislation passed the House of Representatives by a voice vote in the last Congress. I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 1766, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1766, the NTIA Policy and Cybersecurity Coordination Act.

Mr. Speaker, protecting our Nation's communication networks is of vital importance to our national security. This is particularly important now, when a significant amount of our country's economic and social activity has moved online and consumers are continuing to connect more devices to these networks every day.

We, therefore, must build safeguards into our country's communication networks to increase their safety and security while also promoting innovation and competition.

H.R. 1766 will help us achieve these goals. The bill authorizes the existing

Office of Policy Analysis and Development at the NTIA and renames it the Office of Policy Development and Cybersecurity. It also codifies the responsibilities of NTIA in administering parts of the Secure and Trusted Communications Networks Act and requires the office to coordinate and develop policy initiatives to enhance cybersecurity efforts with respect to our communications networks.

The office will also be tasked with developing and analyzing policies that promote innovation, competition, and workforce development in the communications, media, and technology markets.

Mr. Speaker, I thank Representatives OBERNOLTE and MCCLELLAN for their bipartisan work on this bill, which will ensure that there is a firm foundation within the Federal Government to oversee the security of our Nation's communications networks. This legislation is more important now than ever given our foreign adversaries' continued attacks on these networks.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as he may consume to the gentleman from California (Mr. OBERNOLTE), the bill's sponsor from California's 23rd District.

Mr. OBERNOLTE. Mr. Speaker, I rise in proud support of my bill, H.R. 1766, the NTIA Policy and Cybersecurity Coordination Act.

Mr. Speaker, as more and more of Americans' lives move into a digital format, it is leaving the information of Americans more and more vulnerable to cyberattacks. That is why it is critical that we establish cybersecurity protocols and capabilities to counter the threats not just of foreign actors but of cybercriminals and transnational criminal organizations who attempt to breach our data security and access the data of Americans.

This bill is an important step towards doing that. It establishes a new Office of Policy Development and Cybersecurity within the National Telecommunications and Information Administration. The role of this office would be to research the cybersecurity vulnerabilities in the American economy and within our government and to coordinate efforts to counter cyber threats within those organizations.

Mr. Speaker, cybersecurity is national security, and this bill is a meaningful step towards achieving that for the people who we represent.

I thank my colleagues on the Energy and Commerce Committee for their support on this bill, as well as my bipartisan co-lead, Congresswoman MCCLELLAN, and urge my colleagues to vote "yes."

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I yield such time as she may consume to the gentlewoman from Virginia (Ms. MCCLELLAN), a member of our committee.

Ms. MCCLELLAN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 1766,

the NTIA Policy and Cybersecurity Coordination Act, which I was pleased to introduce with the gentleman from California (Mr. OBERNOLTE).

Mr. Speaker, this important bipartisan legislation would cement the responsibilities of the National Telecommunications and Information Administration, or NTIA, by codifying, renaming, and enhancing the work of its Office of Policy Analysis and Development, which plays a critical role in shaping our Nation's telecommunications and information objectives.

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NTIA is already central to advancing market-driven strategies that foster innovation, expand broadband deployment, and promote a competitive digital economy. However, this legislation ensures that NTIA is equally empowered to help safeguard that digital future, particularly as the cybersecurity threats we face grow more complex and more dangerous by the day.

Last year's Salt Typhoon cyberattack was one of the most sophisticated and malicious efforts to infiltrate our telecommunications networks. It was a sobering reminder of how vulnerable our communications infrastructure remains and how deeply those vulnerabilities can impact multiple sectors from healthcare to national security.

In today's interconnected world, a breach in one wireless network can compromise critical services in transportation, healthcare, finance, and public safety. As our reliance on digital technologies increases, so too does the scale and sophistication of these threats, especially with the rise of artificial intelligence.

While AI holds tremendous potential to improve efficiency, optimize networks, and revolutionize industries, it also introduces new cybersecurity risks.

Foreign adversaries and malicious actors are already leveraging AI to enhance phishing campaigns, automate malware, and exploit zero-day vulnerabilities faster than ever before. These tools can evade traditional defenses, manipulate systems, and do so at a scale and speed that we have never encountered or imagined before.

That is why this legislation is so timely and so necessary. By reinforcing the NTIA's authority and resources in cybersecurity policy, we position the agency to not only be a leader in innovation and broadband expansion but a central player in securing the Nation's digital infrastructure against these emerging threats.

As the principal adviser to the President on telecommunications and information policy, NTIA must be equipped to identify risks early, coordinate effectively across agencies, and shape forward-looking policies that protect American consumers, businesses, and critical services.

Mr. Speaker, I applaud my colleague for introducing this bill, and I urge my

fellow Members to join me in supporting it. Strengthening NTIA's cybersecurity capabilities is not just a matter of good governance but a national security imperative.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. PALLONE. Mr. Speaker, I urge bipartisan support for this legislation, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, as you can see from today's bills coming from the Energy and Commerce Committee, cybersecurity is high on our list to make sure we are protecting the American public. I strongly ask my colleagues to support this legislation of the gentleman from California's 23rd and the gentlewoman from Virginia's 4th District. I request an "aye" vote on this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Ohio (Mr. LATTA) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 1766.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

MESSAGE FROM THE SENATE

A message from the Senate by Ms. Lasky, one of its clerks, announced that the Senate has passed without amendment a bill of the House of the following title:

H.R. 517. An act to amend the Internal Revenue Code of 1986 to modify the rules for postponing certain deadlines by reason of disaster.

INSTITUTE FOR TELECOMMUNICATION SCIENCES CODIFICATION ACT

Mr. LATTA. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1455) to codify the Institute for Telecommunication Sciences and to direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to establish an initiative to support the development of emergency communication and tracking technologies, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 1455

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 "Institute for Telecommunication Sciences Codification Act" or the "ITS Codification Act".

SEC. 2. INSTITUTE FOR TELECOMMUNICATION SCIENCES.

(a) FINDINGS.—Congress finds the following:

(1) The test center within the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (in this subsection referred to