

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. RES. 285

Supporting the goals and ideals of national cybersecurity awareness month and raising awareness and enhancing the state of cybersecurity in the United States.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 24, 2009

Mrs. FEINSTEIN (for herself, Mr. ROCKEFELLER, Mrs. GILLIBRAND, Mr. CARPER, Ms. MIKULSKI, Mr. LIEBERMAN, Ms. COLLINS, Mr. REID, Mr. LEVIN, Mr. BENNETT, Ms. SNOWE, Ms. LANDRIEU, Mr. HATCH, Mr. BAYH, and Mr. VOINOVICH) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transportation

RESOLUTION

Supporting the goals and ideals of national cybersecurity awareness month and raising awareness and enhancing the state of cybersecurity in the United States.

Whereas the use of the Internet in the United States, to communicate, conduct business, or generate commerce that benefits the overall United States economy, is ubiquitous;

Whereas many people use the Internet in the United States to communicate with family and friends, manage finances and pay bills, access educational opportunities, shop at home, participate in online entertainment and games, and stay informed of news and current events;

Whereas United States small businesses, which employ a significant fraction of the private workforce, increasingly rely on the Internet to manage their businesses, expand their customer reach, and enhance the management of their supply chain;

Whereas nearly all public schools in the United States have Internet access to enhance children's education, with a significant percentage of instructional rooms connected to the Internet to enhance children's education by providing access to educational online content and encouraging self-initiative to discover research resources;

Whereas the number of children who connect to the Internet continues to rise, and teaching children of all ages to become good cyber-citizens through safe, secure, and ethical online behaviors and practices is essential to protect their computer systems and potentially their physical safety;

Whereas the growth and popularity of social networking websites has attracted millions of teenagers, providing access to a range of valuable services, making it all the more important to teach young users how to avoid potential threats like cyber bullies, predators, and identity thieves they may come across while using such services;

Whereas cybersecurity is a critical part of the United States national security and economic security;

Whereas the United States critical infrastructures and economy rely on the secure and reliable operation of information networks to support the United States military, civilian government, energy, telecommunications, financial services, transportation, health care, and emergency response systems;

Whereas Internet users and information infrastructure owners and operators face an increasing threat of malicious crime and fraud attacks through viruses, worms, Trojans, and unwanted programs such as spyware, adware, hacking tools, and password stealers, that are frequent and fast in propagation, are costly to repair, and may disable entire systems;

Whereas millions of records containing personally identifiable information have been lost, stolen, or breached, threatening the security and financial well-being of United States citizens;

Whereas consumers face significant financial and personal privacy losses due to personally identifiable information being more exposed to theft and fraud than ever before;

Whereas national organizations, policymakers, government agencies, private sector companies, nonprofit institutions, schools, academic organizations, consumers, and the media recognize the need to increase awareness of cybersecurity and the need for enhanced cybersecurity in the United States;

Whereas coordination between the numerous Federal agencies involved in cybersecurity efforts is essential to securing the cyber infrastructure of the United States;

Whereas the National Strategy to Secure Cyberspace, published in February 2003, recommends a comprehensive national awareness program to empower all people in the United States, including businesses, the general workforce, and the general population, to secure their own parts of cyberspace;

Whereas the White House's Cyberspace Policy Review, published in May 2009, recommends that the government

initiate a national public awareness and education campaign to promote cybersecurity; and

Whereas the National Cyber Security Alliance, the Multi-State Information Sharing and Analysis Center, the Department of Homeland Security, and other organizations working to improve cybersecurity in the United States have designated October 2009 as the sixth annual National Cybersecurity Awareness Month which serves to educate the people of the United States about the importance of cybersecurity: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the Senate—

2 (1) supports the goals and ideals of National
3 Cybersecurity Awareness Month, as designated by
4 the National Cyber Security Alliance, the Multi-
5 State Information Sharing and Analysis Center, the
6 Department of Homeland Security, and other orga-
7 nizations working to improve cybersecurity in the
8 United States;

9 (2) continues to work with Federal agencies,
10 businesses, educational institutions, and other orga-
11 nizations to enhance the state of cybersecurity in the
12 United States; and

13 (3) congratulates the National Cyber Security
14 Alliance, the Multi-State Information Sharing and
15 Analysis Center, the Department of Homeland Secu-
16 rity, and other organizations working to improve cy-
17 bersecurity in the United States on the sixth anni-

- 1 versary of the National Cybersecurity Month during
- 2 October 2009.

