

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 119

To require the Director of National Intelligence to conduct a study on the feasibility of establishing a Cyber Defense National Guard.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 4, 2021

Ms. JACKSON LEE introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence

A BILL

To require the Director of National Intelligence to conduct a study on the feasibility of establishing a Cyber Defense National Guard.

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 “Cyber Defense Na-
5 tional Guard Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. STUDY ON ESTABLISHMENT OF CYBER DEFENSE**
7 **NATIONAL GUARD.**

8 (a) STUDY.—The Director of National Intelligence,
9 in consultation with the Secretary of Defense and the Sec-
10 retary of Homeland Security, shall conduct a study on the

1 feasibility of establishing a Cyber Defense National
2 Guard.

3 (b) CONTENTS.—The study required under sub-
4 section (a) shall include an analysis of—

5 (1) the cost of creating a Cyber Defense Na-
6 tional Guard;

7 (2) the number of persons who would be needed
8 to defend the critical infrastructure of the United
9 States from a cyber attack or manmade intentional
10 or unintentional catastrophic incident;

11 (3) the sources of potential members of a Cyber
12 Defense National Guard, including industry, aca-
13 demic institutions, research facilities, and Federal
14 contractors;

15 (4) which elements of the Federal Government
16 would be best equipped to recruit, train, and manage
17 a Cyber Defense National Guard;

18 (5) the criteria required for persons to serve in
19 a Cyber Defense National Guard;

20 (6) if an incident disrupts communications in a
21 region or area, what resources can be pre-positioned
22 and training instilled to assure the effectiveness and
23 responsiveness of a Cyber Defense National Guard;

1 (7) the minimum requirements for consider-
2 ation for inclusion in a Cyber Defense National
3 Guard;

4 (8) the impact of the effectiveness of a Cyber
5 Defense National Guard of the possibility that the
6 population of potential recruits may be dominated by
7 men and women without military, intelligence, law
8 enforcement, or government work experience;

9 (9) the recruitment and vetting costs for a
10 Cyber Defense National Guard;

11 (10) the frequency of cyber defense and unit co-
12 hesion training;

13 (11) how well military discipline is able to be
14 adapted for use for creating command and control
15 systems and protocols for a Cyber Defense National
16 Guard;

17 (12) the logistics of allowing governors to use
18 the Cyber Defense National Guard in States during
19 times of cyber emergency;

20 (13) the advantages and disadvantages of cre-
21 ating a Cyber Defense National Guard on the cyber
22 security of the United States; and

23 (14) whether a force trained to defend the net-
24 works of the United States in the event of a major
25 attack or natural or manmade disaster will benefit

1 overall efforts to defend the interests of the United
2 States.

3 (c) REPORT.—

4 (1) SUBMISSION.—Not later than 240 days
5 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Di-
6 rector of National Intelligence, in consultation with
7 the Secretary of Defense and the Secretary of
8 Homeland Security, shall submit to the Committee
9 on Armed Services, the Committee on Homeland Se-
10 curity, the Permanent Select Committee on Intel-
11 ligence, and the Committee on the Judiciary of the
12 House of Representatives and the Committee on
13 Armed Services, the Committee on Homeland Secu-
14 rity and Governmental Affairs, the Select Committee
15 on Intelligence, and the Committee on the Judiciary
16 of the Senate a report containing the results of the
17 study required under subsection (a).

18 (2) FORM.—The report required under para-
19 graph (1) shall be submitted in unclassified form,
20 but may include a classified annex.

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