

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4067

To direct the Federal Communications Commission to establish a council to make recommendations on ways to increase the security, reliability, and interoperability of communications networks, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 22, 2021

Ms. SLOTKIN (for herself, Mr. WALBERG, and Mr. SCHRADER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To direct the Federal Communications Commission to establish a council to make recommendations on ways to increase the security, reliability, and interoperability of communications networks, and for other purposes.

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 “Communications Secu-
5 rity Advisory Act of 2021”.

1 **SEC. 2. COUNCIL ON COMMUNICATIONS SECURITY, RELI-**
2 **ABILITY, AND INTEROPERABILITY.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 90 days after
4 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission
5 shall establish a council to advise the Commission on
6 issues including the security, reliability, and interoper-
7 ability of communications networks.

8 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—

9 (1) APPOINTMENT.—The members of the coun-
10 cil shall be appointed by the Chair.

11 (2) COMPOSITION.—To the extent practicable,
12 the membership of the council shall be composed of
13 the following:

14 (A) Representatives of companies in the
15 communications industry, except companies
16 that are determined by the Chair to be not
17 trusted.

18 (B) Representatives of public interest orga-
19 nizations or academic institutions, except public
20 interest organizations or academic institutions
21 that are determined by the Chair to be not
22 trusted.

23 (C) Representatives of the Federal Govern-
24 ment, State governments, local governments, or
25 Tribal Governments, with at least one member
26 representing each such type of government.

1 (3) KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE.—Each
2 member of the council shall have knowledge and ex-
3 perience relevant to the purpose and goals of the
4 council.

5 (4) TERMS.—

6 (A) IN GENERAL.—Each member of the
7 council shall be appointed for a term of 2 years,
8 except as provided in subparagraph (B).

9 (B) VACANCIES.—Any member appointed
10 to fill a vacancy occurring before the expiration
11 of the term for which the member's predecessor
12 was appointed shall be appointed only for the
13 remainder of that term. A member may serve
14 after the expiration of that member's term until
15 a successor has taken office.

16 (c) REPORTS.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after
18 the date on which the council is established under
19 subsection (a), and every 2 years thereafter, the
20 council shall submit to the Chair each report adopt-
21 ed by the council during the preceding 2-year period,
22 and any report adopted by any working group of the
23 council during such period, including any such re-
24 port of the council or a working group containing
25 recommendations on ways to increase the security,

1 reliability, and interoperability of communications
2 networks, and on other relevant issues as appro-
3 priate.

4 (2) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—Not later than
5 5 days after receiving each report from the council
6 under paragraph (1), the Chair shall submit such re-
7 port to the Committee on Energy and Commerce of
8 the House of Representatives and the Committee on
9 Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Sen-
10 ate.

11 (3) AVAILABILITY ON COMMISSION WEBSITE.—
12 The Commission shall make each report submitted
13 under paragraph (1) publicly available on the
14 website of the Commission.

15 (d) DURATION.—Section 14(a)(2)(B) of the Federal
16 Advisory Committee Act (5 U.S.C. App.; relating to the
17 termination of advisory committees) shall not apply to the
18 council.

19 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

20 (1) CHAIR.—The term “Chair” means the
21 Chair of the Commission.

22 (2) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission”
23 means the Federal Communications Commission.

24 (3) COUNCIL.—The term “council” means the
25 council established under subsection (a).

1 (4) NOT TRUSTED.—

2 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “not trusted”
3 means, with respect to an entity, that—

4 (i) the Chair has made a public deter-
5 mination that such entity is owned by, con-
6 trolled by, or subject to the influence of a
7 foreign adversary; or

8 (ii) the Chair otherwise determines
9 that such entity poses a threat to the na-
10 tional security of the United States.

11 (B) CRITERIA FOR DETERMINATION.—In
12 making a determination under subparagraph
13 (A)(ii), the Chair shall use the criteria de-
14 scribed in paragraphs (1) through (4) of section
15 2(c) of the Secure and Trusted Communica-
16 tions Networks Act of 2019 (47 U.S.C.
17 1601(c)), as appropriate.

18 (5) STATE.—The term “State” has the mean-
19 ing given such term in section 3 of the Communica-
20 tions Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 153).

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