

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4055

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

DECEMBER 2, 2021

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science,
and Transportation

AN ACT

To establish a cybersecurity literacy campaign, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “American Cybersecu-
3 rity Literacy Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

5 It is the sense of the Congress that the United States
6 has a national security and economic interest in promoting
7 cybersecurity literacy amongst the general public.

8 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF CYBERSECURITY LITERACY**
9 **CAMPAIGN.**

10 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Assistant Secretary shall de-
11 velop and conduct a cybersecurity literacy campaign
12 (which shall be available in multiple languages and for-
13 mats, if practicable) to increase the knowledge and aware-
14 ness of the American people of best practices to reduce
15 cybersecurity risks.

16 (b) CAMPAIGN.—To reduce cybersecurity risks, the
17 Assistant Secretary shall—

18 (1) educate the American people on how to pre-
19 vent and mitigate cyberattacks and cybersecurity
20 risks, including by—

21 (A) instructing the American people on
22 how to identify—

23 (i) phishing emails and messages; and

24 (ii) secure websites;

1 (B) instructing the American people about
2 the benefits of changing default passwords on
3 hardware and software technology;

4 (C) encouraging the use of cybersecurity
5 tools, including—

6 (i) multi-factor authentication;

7 (ii) complex passwords;

8 (iii) anti-virus software;

9 (iv) patching and updating software
10 and applications; and

11 (v) virtual private networks;

12 (D) identifying the devices that could pose
13 possible cybersecurity risks, including—

14 (i) personal computers;

15 (ii) smartphones;

16 (iii) tablets;

17 (iv) Wi-Fi routers;

18 (v) smart home appliances;

19 (vi) webcams;

20 (vii) internet-connected monitors; and

21 (viii) any other device that can be con-
22 nected to the internet, including mobile de-
23 vices other than smartphones and tablets;

24 (E) encouraging Americans to—

1 (i) regularly review mobile application
2 permissions;

3 (ii) decline privilege requests from mo-
4 bile applications that are unnecessary;

5 (iii) download applications only from
6 trusted vendors or sources; and

7 (iv) consider a product's life cycle and
8 the developer or manufacturer's commit-
9 ment to providing security updates during
10 a connected device's expected period of use;
11 and

12 (F) identifying the potential cybersecurity
13 risks of using publicly available Wi-Fi networks
14 and the methods a user may utilize to limit
15 such risks; and

16 (2) encourage the American people to use re-
17 sources to help mitigate the cybersecurity risks iden-
18 tified in this subsection.

19 (c) ASSISTANT SECRETARY DEFINED.—In this sec-
20 tion, the term “Assistant Secretary” means the Assistant

1 Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Informa-
2 tion.

Passed the House of Representatives December 1,
2021.

Attest: CHERYL L. JOHNSON,
Clerk.