

Calendar No. 221

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION**S. 2699**

To establish a cybersecurity literacy campaign, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

AUGUST 10, 2021

Ms. KLOBUCHAR (for herself and Mr. THUNE) introduced the following bill;
which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce,
Science, and Transportation

DECEMBER 17, 2021

Reported by Ms. CANTWELL, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in *italie*]**A BILL**

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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “American Cybersecu-
5 rity Literacy Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

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

5 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF CYBERSECURITY LITERACY**
6 **CAMPAIGN.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Assistant Secretary for Com-
8 munications and Information (referred to in this section
9 as the “Assistant Secretary”) shall, in consultation with
10 the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Secu-
11 rity Agency of the Department of Homeland Security, de-
12 velop and conduct a cybersecurity literacy campaign to in-
13 crease the knowledge and awareness of people in the
14 United States of best practices to reduce cybersecurity
15 risks.

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

18 (1) identify the critical areas of an IT system
19 that present cybersecurity risks and educate people
20 in the United States on how to prevent and mitigate
21 such attacks by—

22 (A) instructing such people on how to iden-
23 tify—

24 (i) phishing emails; and

25 (ii) secure websites;

1 (B) instructing such people on the need to
2 change default passwords on hardware and soft-
3 ware technology;

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

6 (i) multi-factor authentication;

7 (ii) complex passwords;

8 (iii) firewalls; and

9 (iv) anti-virus software;

10 (D) identifying the devices that could pose
11 possible cybersecurity risks, including—

12 (i) personal computers;

13 (ii) smartphones;

14 (iii) tablets;

15 (iv) Wi-Fi routers; and

16 (v) smart home appliances;

17 (E) encouraging such people to—

18 (i) regularly review mobile application
19 permissions;

20 (ii) decline privilege requests from mo-
21 bile applications that are unnecessary;

22 (iii) download applications only from
23 trusted vendors or sources; and

1 (iv) connect internet of things or de-
 2 vices to a separate and dedicated network;
 3 and

4 (F) identifying the potential cybersecurity
 5 risks of using publicly available Wi-Fi networks
 6 and the methods a user may utilize to limit
 7 such risks; and

8 (2) direct people and businesses in the United
 9 States to Federal resources to help mitigate the cy-
 10 bersecurity risks identified in this subsection.

11 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

12 *This Act may be cited as the “American Cybersecurity*
 13 *Literacy Act of 2021”.*

14 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

15 *It is the sense of the Congress that the United States*
 16 *has a national security and economic interest in promoting*
 17 *cybersecurity literacy amongst the general public.*

18 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF CYBERSECURITY LITERACY**
 19 **CAMPAIGN.**

20 (a) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Director of the National Insti-*
 21 *tute of Standards and Technology shall, in consultation*
 22 *with the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure*
 23 *Security Agency of the Department of Homeland Security,*
 24 *develop and conduct a cybersecurity literacy campaign to*

1 *increase the knowledge and awareness of people in the*
 2 *United States of best practices to reduce cybersecurity risks.*

3 *(b) ELEMENTS.—In carrying out subsection (a), the*
 4 *Director of the Institute shall—*

5 *(1) identify the critical areas of an information*
 6 *technology system that presents cybersecurity risks*
 7 *and educate people in the United States on how to*
 8 *prevent and mitigate such risks by—*

9 *(A) instructing such people on how to iden-*
 10 *tify—*

11 *(i) phishing emails; and*

12 *(ii) secure websites;*

13 *(B) instructing such people on the need to*
 14 *change default passwords on hardware and soft-*
 15 *ware technology;*

16 *(C) encouraging the use of cybersecurity*
 17 *tools, including—*

18 *(i) multi-factor authentication;*

19 *(ii) complex passwords;*

20 *(iii) firewalls; and*

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22 *(D) identifying the devices that could pose*
 23 *possible cybersecurity risks, including—*

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1 (iii) tablets;

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6 permissions;

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10 trusted vendors or sources; and

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

18 (2) direct people and businesses in the United
19 States to Federal resources to help mitigate the cyber-
20 security risks identified in this subsection.

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