

know that from our work within our own constituencies. According to the most recent report to Congress from the ILO on U.S. basic education programs, in 2021, 24 million additional students were at risk of dropping out of school; 22 million more girls and young women were at risk of forced marriages, early marriages especially, as a result of this; and 9 million additional children were at risk of child labor, all because of the impacts of COVID.

We need to do a hurry-up offense, I think, to try to get back to normalcy and back to a better regimen of training and teaching.

Despite these immense challenges, the U.S. Government's efforts to support basic education programs did reach 33.4 million learners in 73 countries around the world, and I am very proud of the United States' efforts to invest in future generations. It is a credit to our taxpayers that they are supportive of this—and they are—as well as this Congress on both sides of the aisle.

Mr. Speaker, I have no further requests for time, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time for the purpose of closing.

Mr. Speaker, H.R. 7240, the reauthorization of the Reinforcing Education Accountability in Development Act, or the READ Act, comes at a critical time.

Despite the progress we have made toward expanding access to education around the world, COVID-19 has set us back, particularly in low- and middle-income countries. The bill demonstrates our continuing commitment to ensuring every child has access to safe, equitable, and quality education, and our confidence that every dollar invested in this cause returns dividends by way of global economic growth and stability.

Once again, I thank the gentlewoman from California (Ms. BASS) for introducing this bill, along with the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) for their leadership in advancing this critical reauthorization. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join me in supporting it.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Ms. BASS. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 7240, the READ Act Reauthorization Act of 2022. This bipartisan bill, I authored with Africa Subcommittee Ranking Member CHRIS SMITH, is a straightforward reauthorization of the Reinforcing Education Accountability in Development (READ) Act of 2017, which was signed into law in the 115th Congress.

The original READ Act required a five-year Comprehensive Strategy to equitably expand access to basic education for children around

the globe and measurably improve the quality of basic education and learning outcomes in literacy, numeracy, and other basic skills that prepare an individual to be an active, productive member of society and the workforce.

The READ Act Reauthorization Act, which passed the Committee on Foreign Affairs by voice vote, would extend the original authorization by an additional five years. I have also worked closely with the authors of the original READ Act, Senate Majority Whip DICK DURBIN and Senator MARCO RUBIO, who have introduced companion legislation in the Senate as S. 3938.

As implemented in the READ Act, it is the policy of the United States Government to work with partner countries, other donors, multilateral institutions, the private sector, and nongovernmental and civil society organizations, including faith-based organizations, to promote quality basic education through programs and activities.

Since the READ Act's implementation, we have begun to see significant progress in building the foundational skills necessary for students to thrive and succeed in their educational endeavors. For example, in FY 2021 alone, U.S. basic education programs reached more than 33.4 million pre-primary, primary, and secondary students in 73 countries and more than one million additional individuals with tertiary, vocational, and other workforce training.

The READ Act also required the President to submit a comprehensive integrated United States strategy to promote basic education. The U.S. Government Strategy on International Basic Education for Fiscal Years 2016–2023 emerged from this effort and was designed to promote basic education in partner countries for all children, particularly children from vulnerable groups, including women and children, and measurably improve the quality of basic education and the achievement of key learning outcomes. The strategy has been carried out by the United States Agency for International Development (USAID), through a Senior Coordinator of International Basic Education, since 2017.

Since the launch of the USG Strategy on International Basic Education in 2018, agencies and departments have: Created harmonized indicators and streamlined yearly reporting to Congress; Launched the first international basic education website that includes information across all U.S. agencies involved in supporting basic education worldwide; And has increased coordination among U.S. federal agencies and departments by establishing a process for sharing research, tools, and resources to better leverage taxpayer dollars.

Although the READ Act has seen initial success, our partners at USAID and other Federal agencies require time to update the current Strategy and adapt it to new and emerging issues in global education, such as the COVID-19 pandemic which closed schools and resulted in learning loss around the world.

USAID has already begun consulting implementing partners and think tanks at the working and local levels to update the Strategy, and they plan to have a full rollout by Sep-

tember. This update will focus on equitable learning outcomes and joint reporting on global learning poverty from COVID-19 among other issues.

Mr. Speaker, this legislation has received bipartisan and bicameral support, backing from USAID (which implements the Strategy) as well as endorsements from 38 international education organizations. I ask my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to join me in passing this important reauthorization measure.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MALINOWSKI) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 7240, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

SECURING GLOBAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS ACT

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 8503) to require the development of a strategy to promote the use of secure telecommunications infrastructure worldwide, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 8503

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Securing Global Telecommunications Act”.

SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress as follows:

(1) The United States Government should promote and take steps to ensure American leadership in strategic technology industries, including telecommunications infrastructure and other information and communications technologies.

(2) The expansive presence of companies linked to the Chinese Communist Party, such as Huawei, in global mobile networks and the national security implications thereof, such as the ability of the People's Republic of China to exfiltrate the information flowing through those networks and shut off countries' internet access, demonstrates the importance of the United States remaining at the technological frontier and the dire consequences of falling behind.

(3) The significant cost of countering Huawei's market leadership in telecommunications infrastructure around the world underscores the urgency of supporting the competitiveness of United States companies in next-generation information and communication technology.

(4) To remain a leader at the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) and preserve the ITU's technical integrity, the United States must work with emerging economies and developing nations to bolster global telecommunications security and protect American national security interests.

(5) Multilateral cooperation with like-minded partners and allies is critical to carry out the significant effort of financing and promoting secure networks around the world and to achieve market leadership of trusted vendors in this sector.

SEC. 3. STRATEGY FOR SECURING GLOBAL TELECOMMUNICATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE.

(a) **STRATEGY REQUIRED.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall develop and submit to the Committees on Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and Energy and Commerce and the Committees on Foreign Relations and Commerce, Science, and Transportation and of the Senate a strategy, to be known as the "Strategy to Secure Global Telecommunications Infrastructure" (referred to in this Act as the "Strategy"), to promote the use of secure telecommunication infrastructure in countries other than the United States.

(b) **CONSULTATION REQUIRED.**—The Secretary of State shall consult with the President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, the Chief Executive Officer of the Development Finance Corporation, the Administrator of the United States Agency for International Development, the Director of the Trade and Development Agency, the Chair of the Federal Communications Commission, and the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information, in developing the Strategy, which shall consist of an approach led by the Department of State using the policy tools, and informed by the technical expertise, of the other Federal entities so consulted to achieve the goal described in subsection (a).

(c) **ELEMENTS.**—The Strategy shall also include sections on each of the following:

(1) Mobile networks, including a description of efforts by countries other than the United States to—

(A) promote trusted Open RAN technologies while protecting against any security risks posed by untrusted vendors in Open RAN networks;

(B) use financing mechanisms to assist "rip-and-replace" projects and to incentivize countries to choose trusted equipment vendors;

(C) bolster multilateral cooperation, especially with developing countries and emerging economies, to promote the deployment of trusted wireless networks worldwide; and

(D) collaborate with trusted private sector companies to counter Chinese market leadership in the telecom equipment industry.

(2) Data centers, including a description of efforts to—

(A) utilize financing mechanisms to incentivize countries other than the United States to choose trusted data center providers; and

(B) bolster multilateral cooperation, especially with developing countries and emerging economies, to promote the deployment of trusted data centers worldwide.

(3) Sixth (and future) generation technologies (6G), including a description of efforts to—

(A) deepen cooperation with like-minded countries to promote United States and allied market leadership in 6G networks and technologies; and

(B) increase buy-in from developing countries and emerging countries on trusted technologies.

(4) Low-Earth orbit satellites, aerostats, and stratospheric balloons, including a de-

scription of efforts to work with trusted private sector companies to retain the ability to quickly provide internet connection in response to emergency situations.

SEC. 4. REPORT ON MALIGN INFLUENCE AT THE INTERNATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION.

(a) **REPORT.**—Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall develop and submit to the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Foreign Relations and Commerce, Science, and Transportation the Senate a report on Russian and Chinese strategies and efforts—

(1) to expand the mandate of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU) to cover internet governance policy; and

(2) to advance other actions favorable to authoritarian interests and/or hostile to fair, industry-led processes.

(b) **ELEMENTS.**—The report required by subsection (a) shall also identify efforts by China and Russia—

(1) to increase the ITU's jurisdiction over internet governance and to propose internet governance standards at the ITU;

(2) to leverage their private sector actors to advance their national interests through the ITU, including—

(A) encouraging Chinese and Russian companies to leverage their market power to pressure other member countries to deliver favorable decisions on ITU elections; and

(B) China's efforts to leverage Huawei's role as the primary telecommunications equipment and services provider for many developing countries to compel such countries to deliver favorable decisions on standards proposals, election victories, candidate selection, and other levers of power at the ITU; and

(3) to use the influence of Chinese and Russian nationals serving in the ITU to advantage the companies, standards decisions, and candidates that advance the CCP and Kremlin's interests.

(c) **FORM.**—The report required by this section shall be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a classified annex.

SEC. 5. REPORT ON MULTILATERAL COORDINATION.

Not later than 90 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination with the President of the Export-Import Bank of the United States, the Administrator for the United States Agency on International Development, the Chief Executive Officer of the Development Finance Corporation, the Chair of the Federal Communications Commission, and the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information, shall develop and submit to the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Energy and Commerce and of the House of Representatives and the Committees Foreign Relations and on Commerce, Science, and Transportation and of the Senate a report that identifies opportunities for greater collaboration with allies and partners to promote secure information and communications technology infrastructure in countries other than the United States, including through—

(1) joint financing efforts to help trusted vendors win bids to build out information and communications technology (ICT) infrastructure;

(2) incorporating ICT focuses into allies' and partners' international development finance initiatives; and

(3) diplomatic coordination to emphasize the importance of secure telecommunications infrastructure to countries using untrusted providers.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from

New Jersey (Mr. MALINOWSKI) and the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. SMITH) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MALINOWSKI).

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that all Members may have 5 legislative days in which to revise and extend their remarks and include extraneous material on H.R. 8503.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from New Jersey?

There was no objection.

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 8503, the Securing Global Telecommunications Act, introduced by the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. MANNING) and the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM).

A week from today, the International Telecommunication Union, the U.N. organization that oversees global telecom and tech issues, will have a plenipotentiary for the first time in 4 years. Crucially, among the elections to be held during this time, there will be an election to decide who will lead the agency as its secretary general.

The current secretary general is a Chinese national who has used his position to bolster the PRC's interests. The upcoming race to decide who will next lead the organization is between an American, Doreen Bogdan-Martin, and a Russian national, Rashid Ismailov. The Russians and Chinese have consistently staked out positions on internet governance that would make the communications sector more friendly for authoritarian governments such as they, governments that want to crack down on human rights, on freedom of speech and expression.

This bill is an answer that stakes out a better telecommunications future. It calls on the administration to submit a strategy on how to promote American economic and security interests in critical technologies like 5G, Open RAN, and low-Earth orbit satellite internet.

The bill positions the United States to lead on global telecommunications issues and requires the administration to increase reporting and transparency on Russian and PRC activities in the telecommunications sector. This information will help us better coordinate with like-minded democracies on digital and internet freedom and security issues.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to join us in supporting the bill, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. SMITH of New Jersey. Mr. Speaker, I rise in strong support of H.R. 8503, and I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I am pleased to support the Securing Global Telecommunications Act introduced by two of my colleagues on the Foreign Affairs Committee, the gentlewoman from North

Carolina (Ms. MANNING) and the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM).

The Chinese Communist Party does not hide the fact that its end goal is to replace freedom and democracy with dictatorship and oppression, and they use advanced communications such as 5G networks to spread their malign influence. The CCP seeks to spread that influence further by dominating the international standards-setting bodies that set the rules of the road for emerging technologies to skew those standards and industries toward their interests and industries.

This bipartisan bill seeks to bolster U.S. efforts that are already underway, but I think it takes it even further to promote secure telecommunications infrastructure around the world.

It will require, for example, that the U.S. Department of State submit a report on Chinese and Russian efforts to advance their interests at international standards-setting bodies, as my colleague from New Jersey just pointed out, like the International Telecommunication Union, or ITU, and to identify opportunities for multilateral collaboration to promote secure telecom providers.

Lastly, it codifies the International Digital Economy and Telecommunication Advisory Committee, which the State Department created to provide expert advice to the Bureau of Cyberspace and Digital Policy on ICT policy matters.

Mr. Speaker, it is a good bill and deserves the support of Members on both sides. I urge its support, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from North Carolina (Ms. MANNING).

Ms. MANNING. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend, Representative MALINOWSKI, for yielding. I thank Chairman MEEKS for his leadership in advancing this legislation to the floor, and the gentlewoman from California (Mrs. KIM), my friend, for partnering with me on this important bill.

I rise today in support of my Securing Global Telecommunications Act, a bipartisan bill I introduced to help combat China's attempts to dominate the next generation of critical technology.

Mr. Speaker, many of the products we use every day are connected to telecommunications networks, and they rely on a nearly invisible set of internationally agreed-upon standards.

Our strategic competitors, Russia and China, want to gain an unfair advantage over these critical areas. They are determined to set the rules of the road for the next generation of critical technologies like 5G and AI. They are relentless in their efforts to provide their own companies, like Huawei and ZTE, with an unfair advantage while shutting out all competitors.

This effort is not just about helping their businesses win. This is about controlling a key strategic domain, which poses serious risks and consequences

for the U.S. and global security. That is because the PRC has demonstrated its willingness to abuse technology to steal data, conduct surveillance, and invade privacy, all to further its geopolitical agenda and bolster its model of a closed, authoritarian system of governance.

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The United States and our allies must work together to counter this threat. We need to develop and deploy more secure and better trusted tech and telecommunications infrastructure.

My bipartisan bill will help do just that.

First, the bill will require a comprehensive strategy for securing global telecommunications infrastructure worldwide, incorporating mobile networks, data centers, and emerging technologies like LEO satellites and 6G.

We can't afford to be complacent about this challenge. We must have a cohesive strategy to address this issue.

This bill will also help crack down on Russia's and China's malign influence at the International Telecommunication Union, or ITU—a little-known but incredibly important U.N. organization that could determine the standards behind the future of the digital world. It is vital that America and allied countries are in the room at the table and leading the charge to set next-generation technology standards.

Finally, the bill would encourage the U.S. to work closely with our allies and partners to promote and finance secure networks and trusted vendors, without having to rely on Chinese state-owned companies that threaten our security.

Taken together, these important measures will help us shore up key gaps and vulnerabilities, while countering China's strategic technology ambitions.

Mr. Speaker, our adversaries hope and believe that they can achieve undue influence and dominance over international telecom infrastructure and technical standards.

This bill is a step toward stopping their unfettered aggression in an area that is of vital strategic importance.

It will help preserve our global leadership in tech and telecom, keep our companies competitive, and protect the safety and integrity of the networks we rely on every day.

Once again, I thank Chairman MEEKS for his leadership in this area. I urge all my colleagues to join me in supporting this bill.

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, H.R. 8503, the Securing Global Telecommunications Act, is important legislation that will position our country to be a leader in the world's telecommunications future. It will ensure that the U.S. Government is taking steps to shore up and protect our digital infrastructure at home and help us better coordinate with like-minded democracies as we work to thwart Russia

and the PRC's malign efforts to crack down on dissent and freedom of expression.

I again thank my colleagues, Representatives MANNING and KIM for introducing this legislation. I hope my colleagues will join me in supporting this bill.

Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. MALINOWSKI) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 8503, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds being in the affirmative, the ayes have it.

Mr. ROSENDALE. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

COUNTERING UNTRUSTED TELECOMMUNICATIONS ABROAD ACT

Mr. MALINOWSKI. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 8520) to establish certain reporting and other requirements relating to telecommunications equipment and services produced or provided by certain entities, and for other purposes, as amended.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 8520

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Countering Untrusted Telecommunications Abroad Act".

SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.

It is the sense of Congress that—

(1) the national security of the United States is affected by the telecommunications security of United States allies, partners, and other countries around the globe;

(2) the importance of mobile and internet services makes such services tempting and effective tools for malign influence and economic coercion;

(3) Huawei Technologies Company and ZTE Corporation (and any subsidiary or affiliate of either such entity) should not serve as a vendor of telecommunications equipment or services given the close ties to, and control over, such entities by the People's Republic of China; and

(4) it is in the economic and national security interests of the United States to ensure that countries around the globe use trusted telecommunications equipment or services.

SEC. 3. REPORT ON UNTRUSTED TELECOMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT OR SERVICES IN COUNTRIES WITH COLLECTIVE DEFENSE AGREEMENT WITH UNITED STATES.

(a) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter for two years, the Secretary of State, in consultation with the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information, shall submit to the Committees on Foreign Affairs and Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives and the Committees on Foreign