

Ms. LEE of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the Chinese Communist Party and other adversary nation-states and criminal networks have been exploiting our critical infrastructure and collecting information on American officials, posing a grave threat to our national security.

The malicious cyber activity by the CCP represents a calculated effort to gather intelligence on IT systems vital to U.S. national security, public safety, and economic stability.

Specifically, the CCP state-sponsored cyber actor known as Volt Typhoon has conducted a coordinated campaign to infiltrate the information technology environments of a wide range of critical infrastructure sectors of the United States, including sectors like communications, transportation, energy, and water.

H.R. 9769, the Strengthening Cyber Resilience Against State-Sponsored Threats Act, will create an interagency task force, chaired by the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, CISA, Director and co-chaired by the FBI Director to address the cybersecurity threat posed by CCP cyber actors.

This bill would improve our defensive and offensive capabilities in cyberspace and requires the task force to provide a classified report and briefing to Congress annually for 5 years on their findings, conclusions, and recommendations relating to malicious cyber activity. Specifically, this task force will help Congress create a mitigation strategy every year to help us prevent future cyberattacks and protect our national security.

It is time to mitigate this threat and secure our networks and infrastructure to protect all Americans. We must address the grave threats China and other foreign adversaries pose to our cybersecurity. I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.R. 9769.

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself the balance of my time.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 9769, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support H.R. 9769, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 9769.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DHS CYBERSECURITY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM ACT

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 9689) to amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to es-

tablish a DHS Cybersecurity Internship Program, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 9689

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 "DHS Cybersecurity Internship Program Act".

SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY CYBERSECURITY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM.

(a) PROGRAM.—Subtitle D of title XIII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"SEC. 1334. CYBERSECURITY INTERNSHIP PROGRAM.

"(a) PROGRAM.—The Secretary shall carry out a cybersecurity internship program (in this section referred to as the 'Program') under which an eligible individual participates in a paid cybersecurity internship at the Department with duties aligned to such participant's respective education, skills, and experience.

"(b) ELIGIBILITY.—To be eligible to participate in the Program, an individual shall—

"(1) be a citizen of the United States;

"(2) be at least 16 years old; and

"(3) be enrolled in a secondary school, technical, trade, or vocational school, or institution of higher education, in accordance with subsection (c).

"(c) COMPOSITION.—The Secretary shall, as practicable, ensure that participants selected for the Program for each intern class include students enrolled in each of the following:

"(1) Secondary schools.

"(2) Junior or community colleges.

"(3) Undergraduate degree programs.

"(4) Postgraduate degree programs.

"(5) Technical, trade, or vocational schools.

"(d) REPORTS.—

"(1) REPORTS.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this section and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report on the Program.

"(2) MATTERS.—Each report under paragraph (1) shall include, with respect to the most recent Program year, the following:

"(A) A description of outreach efforts by the Secretary to raise awareness of the Program among secondary schools and institutions of higher education, including among junior or community colleges, historically-Black colleges and universities, and other minority-serving institutions.

"(B) Information on specific recruiting efforts by the Secretary to increase participation in the Program.

"(C) The number of individuals participating in the Program, listed by the type of school or program in which the individual is enrolled at the time of participation, and information on the nature of each such participation, including Department components supported, and the duties of each such individual.

"(3) CONSOLIDATION.—Reports submitted under this subsection may be consolidated with the reports required under section 1333(e).

"(e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

"(1) HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY.—The term 'historically Black college or university' has the meaning given the term 'part B institution' in section 322 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1061).

"(2) INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The term 'institution of higher education' has the meaning given that term in section 101 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001).

"(3) JUNIOR OR COMMUNITY COLLEGE.—The term 'junior or community college' has the meaning given that term in section 312 of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1058).

"(4) MINORITY-SERVING INSTITUTION.—The term 'minority-serving institution' means an eligible institution of higher education described in section 371(a) of the Higher Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1067q(a)).

"(5) SECONDARY SCHOOL.—The term 'secondary school' means a school or program that provides secondary education, as determined under State law, except that the term does not include any education beyond grade 12.

"(6) TECHNICAL, TRADE, OR VOCATIONAL SCHOOL.—The term 'technical, trade, or vocational school' has the meaning given that term in section 411.167 of title 20, Code of Federal Regulations."

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1333 the following new item:

"Sec. 1334. Cybersecurity internship program."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) and the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. CLARKE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. 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. 9689.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 9689, the DHS Cybersecurity Internship Program Act.

I thank my colleague, the gentlewoman from New York (Ms. CLARKE), for her work on this legislation.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support this legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, according to testimony before the House Committee on Homeland Security earlier this year, there are approximately 2,000 cybersecurity vacancies at the Department of Homeland Security. Recent cyber intrusions like the Salt Typhoon telecom breach demonstrate the urgent need to fill those empty desks.

That is why I have introduced H.R. 9689, the DHS Cybersecurity Internship Program Act. This bill codifies DHS' cyber internship program, helping ensure DHS continues to expand its efforts to support individuals seeking to join the cyber workforce.

Internships are particularly valuable for building the workforce because they help build the connection from school to work. For students, they provide critical work experience that can help launch their careers with the practical skills they will need in the workforce. For the Department, internships can help support the cyber mission while building a pipeline to future employment at DHS.

Importantly, these internships are paid, ensuring the program is accessible to all. This summer, 85 interns participated in DHS' new cyber internship program.

Enacting this legislation will ensure that DHS continues the program while adding new oversight requirements to keep Congress informed on how the Department is recruiting interns and utilizing the program to support its cyber mission.

Additionally, my legislation directs the Department to meet cyber talent where it is, whether in high school, community and 4-year colleges, technical schools, or graduate school. Recruiting cyber talent from a broad range of educational institutions will result in a bigger pool of applicants and reflect best practices that more employers should implement.

I thank Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Protection Subcommittee Chairman GARBARINO for cosponsoring this bill and my colleagues on the House Committee on Homeland Security for supporting it at our markup in September. I look forward to similar bipartisan support in the full House.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, the DHS Cybersecurity Internship Program Act will advance our shared goal of strengthening the American cyber workforce while supporting DHS' effort to recruit the next generation of cyber talent and to defend the homeland.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to vote "yes" on H.R. 9689, and I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I again urge my colleagues to support H.R. 9689, and I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 9689.

The question was taken; and (two-thirds being in the affirmative) the rules were suspended and the bill was passed.

A motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

DHS SPECIAL EVENTS PROGRAM AND SUPPORT ACT

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 6229) to amend the

Homeland Security Act of 2002 to authorize a program to assess the threat, vulnerability, and consequences of terrorism or other security threats, as appropriate, to certain events, and for other purposes.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6229

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 "DHS Special Events Program and Support Act".

SEC. 2. DHS SPECIAL EVENTS PROGRAM.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle H of title VIII of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 451 et seq.) is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

"SEC. 890E. SPECIAL EVENTS PROGRAM.

"(a) IN GENERAL.—There is authorized within the Department a program to assess the threat, vulnerability, and consequences of terrorism or other security threats, as appropriate, at certain special events in accordance with subsection (b).

"(b) REQUIREMENTS.—The program authorized under subsection (a) shall—

"(1) apply to special events that are pre-planned and not designated as National Special Security Events by the Secretary;

"(2) include a standard process for Federal, State, local, Tribal, and territorial officials to voluntarily submit to the Secretary requests for a special event rating that could result in direct support for security and situational awareness for such special event;

"(3) maintain a risk-based methodology to assess ratings requests, including requests submitted pursuant to paragraph (2), that considers the anticipated attendance by United States officials or foreign dignitaries, the size and venue of the special event, credible threats of terrorism or other security threats, and other homeland security information, as appropriate; and

"(4) include a process for expedited consideration and, where appropriate, a process for the reassessment, of a special event rating.

"(c) SUPPORT TO SPECIAL EVENTS.—For purposes of protecting a special event described in subsection (b), the Secretary may provide security and situational awareness support to a Federal, State, local, Tribal, or territorial official at the request of an appropriate Federal, State, local, Tribal, or territorial official.

"(d) ANNUAL REPORTS.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this section and annually thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a report on the program authorized under subsection (a). Each such report shall include information relating to the following:

"(1) The total number of special events submitted to the program authorized under subsection (a) in the prior year, including the number of special events at each rating level.

"(2) The total number of events in the prior year for which the Secretary designated a Federal coordinator or coordinated security and situational awareness support, including a summary of Federal support provided.

"(3) The total number of requests for special event rating reassessment under subsection (b)(4), including the following:

"(A) The identification of the requesting entity.

"(B) The special event name, date, and location.

"(C) The initial and final rating determination.

"(D) The justification for such final rating determination.

"(e) PERIODIC ASSESSMENTS.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this section and every five years thereafter, the Secretary shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate an assessment of the program authorized under subsection (a).

"(f) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term 'homeland security information' has the meaning given such term in section 892."

(b) MASS GATHERING RESEARCH.—Not later than one year after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordination with the Undersecretary for Science and Technology of the Department of Homeland Security and the official responsible for carrying out section 890E of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by subsection (a), shall, to the extent practicable, carry out research and development, including operational testing, of technologies and techniques for enhancing the Department's security and situational awareness support to Federal, State, local, Tribal, and territorial officials relating to mass gatherings consistent with applicable constitutional, privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties protections.

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 890D the following new item:

"Sec. 890E. Special events program."

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from Tennessee (Mr. GREEN) and the gentleman from New York (Ms. CLARKE) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Tennessee.

GENERAL LEAVE

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. 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. 6229.

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

There was no objection.

Mr. GREEN of Tennessee. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6229, the DHS Special Events Program and Support Act. I thank the gentleman from Nevada (Ms. TITUS) for bringing this measure forward.

Mr. Speaker, I urge my colleagues to support the legislation, and I reserve the balance of my time.

Ms. CLARKE of New York. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 6229, the DHS Special Events Program and Support Act, sponsored by the gentlewoman from Nevada (Ms. TITUS).

H.R. 6229 is a bipartisan bill that would make our communities safer during large public events and mass gatherings by ensuring that our State,