

Union Calendar No.

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1709

[Report No. 119-]

To direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to submit to Congress a report examining the cybersecurity of mobile service networks, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 27, 2025

Mr. LANDSMAN (for himself and Mrs. CAMMACK) introduced the following bill;
which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

MARCH --, 2025

Committed to the Committee of the Whole House on the State of the Union,
and ordered to be printed

A BILL

To direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to submit to Congress a report examining the cybersecurity of mobile service 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 “Understanding Cyber-
5 security of Mobile Networks Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. REPORT ON CYBERSECURITY OF MOBILE SERVICE**
7 **NETWORKS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the
9 date of the enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary,
10 in consultation with the Department of Homeland Secu-
11 rity, shall submit to the Committee on Energy and Com-
12 merce of the House of Representatives and the Committee
13 on Commerce, Science, and Transportation of the Senate
14 a report examining the cybersecurity of mobile service net-
15 works and the vulnerability of such networks and mobile
16 devices to cyberattacks and surveillance conducted by ad-
17 versaries.

18 (b) MATTERS TO BE INCLUDED.—The report re-
19 quired by subsection (a) shall include the following:

20 (1) An assessment of the degree to which pro-
21 viders of mobile service have addressed, are address-
22 ing, or have not addressed cybersecurity
23 vulnerabilities (including vulnerabilities the exploi-
24 tation of which could lead to surveillance conducted
25 by adversaries) identified by academic and inde-

1 pendent researchers, multistakeholder standards and
2 technical organizations, industry experts, and Fed-
3 eral agencies, including in relevant reports of—

4 (A) the National Telecommunications and
5 Information Administration;

6 (B) the National Institute of Standards
7 and Technology; and

8 (C) the Department of Homeland Security,
9 including—

10 (i) the Cybersecurity and Infrastruc-
11 ture Security Agency; and

12 (ii) the Science and Technology Direc-
13 torate.

14 (2) A discussion of—

15 (A) the degree to which customers (includ-
16 ing consumers, companies, and government
17 agencies) consider cybersecurity as a factor
18 when considering the purchase of mobile service
19 and mobile devices; and

20 (B) the commercial availability of tools,
21 frameworks, best practices, and other resources
22 for enabling such customers to evaluate cyber-
23 security risk and price tradeoffs.

1 (3) A discussion of the degree to which pro-
2 viders of mobile service have implemented cybersecu-
3 rity best practices and risk assessment frameworks.

4 (4) An estimate and discussion of the preva-
5 lence and efficacy of encryption and authentication
6 algorithms and techniques used in each of the fol-
7 lowing:

8 (A) Mobile service.

9 (B) Mobile communications equipment or
10 services.

11 (C) Commonly used mobile phones and
12 other mobile devices.

13 (D) Commonly used mobile operating sys-
14 tems and communications software and applica-
15 tions.

16 (5) A discussion of the barriers for providers of
17 mobile service to adopt more efficacious encryption
18 and authentication algorithms and techniques and to
19 prohibit the use of older encryption and authentica-
20 tion algorithms and techniques with established
21 vulnerabilities in mobile service, mobile communica-
22 tions equipment or services, and mobile phones and
23 other mobile devices.

24 (6) An estimate and discussion of the preva-
25 lence, usage, and availability of technologies that au-

1 thenticate legitimate mobile service and mobile com-
2 munications equipment or services to which mobile
3 phones and other mobile devices are connected.

4 (7) An estimate and discussion of the preva-
5 lence, costs, commercial availability, and usage by
6 adversaries in the United States of cell site simula-
7 tors (often known as international mobile subscriber
8 identity catchers) and other mobile service surveil-
9 lance and interception technologies.

10 (c) CONSULTATION.—In preparing the report re-
11 quired by subsection (a), the Assistant Secretary shall, to
12 the degree practicable, consult with—

13 (1) the Federal Communications Commission;

14 (2) the National Institute of Standards and
15 Technology;

16 (3) the intelligence community;

17 (4) the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Secu-
18 rity Agency of the Department of Homeland Secu-
19 rity;

20 (5) the Science and Technology Directorate of
21 the Department of Homeland Security;

22 (6) academic and independent researchers with
23 expertise in privacy, encryption, cybersecurity, and
24 network threats;

1 (7) participants in multistakeholder standards
2 and technical organizations (including the 3rd Gen-
3 eration Partnership Project and the Internet Engi-
4 neering Task Force);

5 (8) international stakeholders, in coordination
6 with the Department of State as appropriate;

7 (9) providers of mobile service, including small
8 providers (or the representatives of such providers)
9 and rural providers (or the representatives of such
10 providers);

11 (10) manufacturers, operators, and providers of
12 mobile communications equipment or services and
13 mobile phones and other mobile devices;

14 (11) developers of mobile operating systems and
15 communications software and applications; and

16 (12) other experts that the Assistant Secretary
17 considers appropriate.

18 (d) SCOPE OF REPORT.—The Assistant Secretary
19 shall—

20 (1) limit the report required by subsection (a)
21 to mobile service networks;

22 (2) exclude consideration of 5G protocols and
23 networks in the report required by subsection (a);

1 (3) limit the assessment required by subsection
2 (b)(1) to vulnerabilities that have been shown to
3 be—

4 (A) exploited in non-laboratory settings; or
5 (B) feasibly and practicably exploitable in
6 real-world conditions; and

7 (4) consider in the report required by sub-
8 section (a) vulnerabilities that have been effectively
9 mitigated by manufacturers of mobile phones and
10 other mobile devices.

11 (e) FORM OF REPORT.—

12 (1) CLASSIFIED INFORMATION.—The report re-
13 quired by subsection (a) shall be produced in unclas-
14 sified form but may contain a classified annex.

15 (2) POTENTIALLY EXPLOITABLE UNCLASSIFIED
16 INFORMATION.—The Assistant Secretary shall re-
17 dact potentially exploitable unclassified information
18 from the report required by subsection (a) but shall
19 provide an unredacted form of the report to the
20 committees described in such subsection.

21 (f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

22 (1) ADVERSARY.—The term “adversary” in-
23 cludes—

24 (A) any unauthorized hacker or other in-
25 truder into a mobile service network; and

1 (B) any foreign government or foreign
2 nongovernment person engaged in a long-term
3 pattern or serious instances of conduct signifi-
4 cantly adverse to the national security of the
5 United States or security and safety of United
6 States persons.

7 (2) ASSISTANT SECRETARY.—The term “Assist-
8 ant Secretary” means the Assistant Secretary of
9 Commerce for Communications and Information.

10 (3) ENTITY.—The term “entity” means a part-
11 nership, association, trust, joint venture, corpora-
12 tion, group, subgroup, or other organization.

13 (4) INTELLIGENCE COMMUNITY.—The term
14 “intelligence community” has the meaning given
15 that term in section 3 of the National Security Act
16 of 1947 (50 U.S.C. 3003).

17 (5) MOBILE COMMUNICATIONS EQUIPMENT OR
18 SERVICE.—The term “mobile communications equip-
19 ment or service” means any equipment or service
20 that is essential to the provision of mobile service.

21 (6) MOBILE SERVICE.—The term “mobile serv-
22 ice” means, to the extent provided to United States
23 customers, either or both of the following services:

1 (A) Commercial mobile service (as defined
2 in section 332(d) of the Communications Act of
3 1934 (47 U.S.C. 332(d))).

4 (B) Commercial mobile data service (as de-
5 fined in section 6001 of the Middle Class Tax
6 Relief and Job Creation Act of 2012 (47 U.S.C.
7 1401)).

8 (7) PERSON.—The term “person” means an in-
9 dividual or entity.

10 (8) UNITED STATES PERSON.—The term
11 “United States person” means—

12 (A) an individual who is a United States
13 citizen or an alien lawfully admitted for perma-
14 nent residence to the United States;

15 (B) an entity organized under the laws of
16 the United States or any jurisdiction within the
17 United States, including a foreign branch of
18 such an entity; or

19 (C) any person in the United States.