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(Original Signature of Member)

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. _____

To require the development of a strategy to promote the use of secure telecommunications infrastructure worldwide, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. MANNING introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on _____

A BILL

To require the development of a strategy to promote the use of secure telecommunications infrastructure worldwide, 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 “Securing Global Tele-
5 communications Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

7 It is the sense of Congress as follows:

1 (1) The United States Government should pro-
2 mote and take steps to ensure American leadership
3 in strategic technology industries, including tele-
4 communications infrastructure and other informa-
5 tion and communications technologies.

6 (2) The expansive presence of companies linked
7 to the Chinese Communist Party, such as Huawei,
8 in global mobile networks and the national security
9 implications thereof, such as the ability of the Peo-
10 ple's Republic of China to exfiltrate the information
11 flowing through those networks and shut off coun-
12 tries' Internet access, demonstrates the importance
13 of the United States remaining at the technological
14 frontier and the dire consequences of falling behind.

15 (3) The significant cost of countering Huawei's
16 market leadership in telecommunications infrastruc-
17 ture around the world underscores the urgency of
18 supporting the competitiveness of United States
19 companies in next-generation information and com-
20 munication technology.

21 (4) To remain a leader at the International
22 Telecommunication Union (ITU) and preserve the
23 ITU's technical integrity, the United States must
24 work with emerging economies and developing na-

1 tions to bolster global telecommunications security
2 and protect American national security interests.

3 (5) Multilateral cooperation with like-minded
4 partners and allies is critical to carry out the signifi-
5 cant effort of financing and promoting secure net-
6 works around the world and to achieve market lead-
7 ership of trusted vendors in this sector.

8 **SEC. 3. STRATEGY FOR SECURING GLOBAL TELECOMMUNI-**
9 **CATIONS INFRASTRUCTURE.**

10 (a) STRATEGY REQUIRED.—Not later than 90 days
11 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary
12 of State shall develop and submit to the Committee on
13 Foreign Affairs of the House of Representatives and the
14 Committee on Foreign Relations of the Senate a strategy,
15 to be known as the “Strategy to Secure Global Tele-
16 communications Infrastructure” (referred to in this Act
17 as the “Strategy”), to promote the use of secure tele-
18 communication infrastructure worldwide.

19 (b) CONSULTATION REQUIRED.—The Secretary of
20 State shall consult with the President of the Export-Im-
21 port Bank of the United States, the Chief Executive Offi-
22 cer of the Development Finance Corporation, the Adminis-
23 trator of the United States Agency for International De-
24 velopment, the Director of the Trade and Development
25 Agency, the Chair of the Federal Communications Com-

1 mission, and the Secretary of Commerce, in developing the
2 Strategy, which shall consist of an approach led by the
3 Department of State using the policy tools, and informed
4 by the technical expertise, of the other Federal entities so
5 consulted to achieve the goal described in subsection (a).

6 (c) ELEMENTS.—The Strategy shall also include sec-
7 tions on each of the following:

8 (1) Mobile networks, including a description of
9 efforts to—

10 (A) promote trusted Open RAN tech-
11 nologies while protecting against any security
12 risks posed by untrusted vendors in Open RAN
13 networks;

14 (B) use financing mechanisms to assist
15 “rip-and-replace” projects and to incentivize
16 countries to choose trusted equipment vendors;

17 (C) bolster multilateral cooperation, espe-
18 cially with developing countries and emerging
19 economies, to promote the deployment of trust-
20 ed wireless networks worldwide;

21 (D) collaborate with trusted private sector
22 companies to counter Chinese market leadership
23 in the telecom equipment industry; and

1 (E) review the feasibility of using low-
2 Earth orbit satellites as a way to provide inter-
3 net access.

4 (2) Data centers, including a description of ef-
5 forts to—

6 (A) collaborate with trusted private sector
7 companies to counter the growing market share
8 of untrusted Chinese companies and to main-
9 tain and promote United States market leader-
10 ship in the cloud computing and data center
11 businesses;

12 (B) utilize financing mechanisms to
13 incentivize countries to choose trusted data cen-
14 ter providers;

15 (C) bolster multilateral cooperation, espe-
16 cially with developing countries and emerging
17 economies, to promote the deployment of trust-
18 ed data centers worldwide.

19 (3) Sixth (and future) generation technologies
20 (6G), including a description of efforts to—

21 (A) promote United States leadership in
22 6G standards-setting processes;

23 (B) deepen cooperation with like-minded
24 countries to promote United States and allied

1 market leadership in 6G networks and tech-
2 nologies; and

3 (C) increase buy-in from developing coun-
4 tries and emerging countries on United States
5 and allied 6G standards and trusted tech-
6 nologies.

7 (4) Low-Earth orbit satellites, aerostats, and
8 stratospheric balloons, including a description of ef-
9 forts to—

10 (A) develop the capabilities to rapidly de-
11 liver wireless internet anywhere on the planet;
12 and

13 (B) work with trusted private sector com-
14 panies to retain the ability to quickly provide
15 internet connection in response to emergency
16 situations.

17 **SEC. 4. INTERNATIONAL DIGITAL ECONOMIC AND TELE-**
18 **COMMUNICATION ADVISORY COMMITTEE.**

19 (a) IN GENERAL.—There is established in the De-
20 partment of State a International Digital Economic and
21 Telecommunication Advisory Committee (“IDET”).

22 (b) PURPOSE.—The IDET shall seek to advise the
23 Secretary of State on the formulation of United States
24 strategies, policies, positions, and proposals on policy mat-
25 ters relevant to digital economy, digital connectivity, eco-

1 nomic aspects of emerging digital technologies, tele-
2 communications, and communications and information
3 policy. Such advice shall include matters related to United
4 States participation in the International Telecommuni-
5 cation Union (ITU), the Inter-American Telecommuni-
6 cation Commission of the Organization of American
7 States, the Organization for Economic Cooperation and
8 Development, the Telecommunications and Information
9 Working Group of the Asia Pacific Economic Cooperation
10 Forum, the Group of Seven, the Digital Economy Task
11 Force of the Goup of Twenty, and other relevant tele-
12 communications standards-setting bodies.

13 (c) CHAIR AND MEMBERSHIP.—

14 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of State shall
15 designate an employee of the Department of State to
16 serve as the Chair of the IDET.

17 (2) MEMBERS.—The Chair shall appoint not
18 fewer than 20 members to the IDET who meet the
19 qualifications listed in paragraph (3).

20 (3) QUALIFICATIONS FOR MEMBERS.—Members
21 of the IDET shall be appointed from among individ-
22 uals who are citizens or legal permanent residents of
23 the United States. To ensure diversity of advice, the
24 IDET may not include more than one representative
25 of any one particular United States organization

1 during any period in which the IDET consists of 20
2 members or fewer. Together, the members should
3 represent a balance of interests and diverse view-
4 points and have substantial expertise addressing
5 these policy issues, participating in United States
6 preparatory activities for conferences and meetings
7 of international organizations, and serving on United
8 States delegations.

9 (4) ORGANIZATIONS REPRESENTED.—Members
10 of the IDET shall include representatives of the fol-
11 lowing—

12 (A) interested government agencies, whose
13 representatives shall serve as ex officio mem-
14 bers;

15 (B) United States organizations, including
16 associations and scientific or industrial organi-
17 zations that are engaged in the study of tele-
18 communications or in the design or manufac-
19 ture of equipment intended for telecommuni-
20 cations services;

21 (C) civil society;

22 (D) academia; and

23 (E) organizations, institutions, or entities
24 with specific interest in digital economy, digital
25 connectivity, economic aspects of digital tech-

1 nologies, and communications and information
2 policy matters.

3 (5) REMOVAL.—The Chair may remove any
4 member for any reason.

5 (e) SUBCOMMITTEES.—

6 (1) PRIVATE SECTOR SUBCOMMITTEE.—

7 (A) PURPOSE.—The Chair shall establish a
8 permanent private sector subcommittee to pro-
9 vide the perspective and expertise of private in-
10 dustry so that an understanding of market
11 forces, technical realities, bidding environments,
12 and industry equities informs the recommenda-
13 tions of the IDET.

14 (B) LEADERSHIP.—The Chair shall ap-
15 point a chair of the permanent subcommittee
16 from among the members of the IDET.

17 (C) MEMBERSHIP.—The subcommittee's
18 membership should represent the range of pri-
19 vate sector entities in critical telecommuni-
20 cations infrastructure and technology .

21 (2) AUTHORIZATION.—The Chair may establish
22 such other subcommittees as the Chair may deter-
23 mine appropriate to provide advice to the IDET on
24 strategic planning and other communications and in-
25 formation policy issues. Such subcommittees shall

1 provide advice only to the IDET and shall not pro-
2 vide advice directly to the Secretary of State.

3 (3) MEMBERSHIP.—Membership of subcommit-
4 tees shall not be limited to a prescribed number and
5 may include more than one member from one agency
6 or organization designated for the subcommittee.

7 (f) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is
8 authorized to be appropriated \$250,000 to carry out this
9 section.

10 **SEC. 5. REPORT ON MALIGN INFLUENCE AT THE INTER-**
11 **NATIONAL TELECOMMUNICATION UNION.**

12 (a) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date
13 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State shall
14 develop and submit to the Committee on Foreign Affairs
15 of the House of Representatives and the Committee on
16 Foreign Relations of the Senate a report on Russian and
17 Chinese strategies and efforts—

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

21 (2) to advance other actions favorable to au-
22 thoritarian interests and/or hostile to fair, industry-
23 led processes.

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

1 (1) to increase the ITU’s jurisdiction over inter-
2 net governance and to propose internet governance
3 standards at the ITU;

4 (2) to leverage their private sectors to advance
5 their national interests through the ITU, includ-
6 ing—

7 (A) encouraging Chinese and Russian com-
8 panies to leverage their market power to pres-
9 sure other member countries to deliver favor-
10 able decisions on ITU elections; and

11 (B) China’s efforts to leverage Huawei’s
12 role as the primary telecommunications equip-
13 ment and services provider for many developing
14 countries to compel such countries to deliver fa-
15 vorable decisions on standards proposals, elec-
16 tion victories, candidate selection, and other le-
17 vers of power at the ITU; and

18 (3) to use the influence of Chinese and Russian
19 nationals serving in the ITU to advantage the com-
20 panies, standards decisions, and candidates that ad-
21 vance the CCP and Kremlin’s interests.

22 (c) FORM.—The report required by this section shall
23 be submitted in unclassified form, but may include a clas-
24 sified annex.

1 **SEC. 6. REPORT ON MULTILATERAL COORDINATION.**

2 Not later than 90 days after the date of the enact-
3 ment of this Act, the Secretary of State, in coordination
4 with the President of the Export-Import Bank of the
5 United States, the Administrator for the United States
6 Agency on International Development, and the Chief Ex-
7 ecutive Officer of the Development Finance Corporation,
8 shall develop and submit to the Committee on Foreign Af-
9 fairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee
10 on Foreign Relations of the Senate a report that identifies
11 opportunities for greater collaboration with allies and
12 partners to promote secure information and communica-
13 tions technology infrastructure, including through—

14 (1) joint financing efforts to help trusted ven-
15 dors win bids to build out information and commu-
16 nications technology (ICT) infrastructure;

17 (2) incorporating ICT focuses into allies' and
18 partners' international development finance initia-
19 tives;

20 (3) establishing working groups focused on pro-
21 moting trusted ICT in international standard-setting
22 bodies; and

23 (4) diplomatic coordination to emphasize the
24 importance of secure telecommunications infrastruc-
25 ture to countries using untrusted providers.