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ONE HUNDRED FOURTEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON ENERGY AND COMMERCE
2125 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20515–6115
Majority (202) 225–2927
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June 20, 2016

Mr. Josh Corman
Director
Cyber Statecraft Initiative
Atlantic Council
1030 15th Street, N.W.
Washington, DC 20005

Dear Mr. Corman:

Thank you for appearing before the Subcommittee on Health on May 25, 2016 to testify at the hearing entitled "Examining Cybersecurity Responsibilities at HHS."

Pursuant to the Rules of the Committee on Energy and Commerce, the hearing record remains open for ten business days to permit Members to submit additional questions for the record, which are attached. The format of your responses to these questions should be as follows: (1) the name of the Member whose question you are addressing, (2) the complete text of the question you are addressing in bold, and (3) your answer to that question in plain text.

To facilitate the printing of the hearing record, please respond to these questions with a transmittal letter by the close of business on July 5, 2016. Your responses should be mailed to Graham Pittman, Legislative Clerk, Committee on Energy and Commerce, 2125 Rayburn House Office Building, Washington, DC 20515 and e-mailed in Word format to graham.pittman@mail.house.gov.

Thank you again for your time and effort preparing and delivering testimony before the Subcommittee.

Sincerely,

Joseph R. Pitts
Chairman
Subcommittee on Health

cc: The Honorable Gene Green, Ranking Member, Subcommittee on Health

Attachment

Attachment — Additional Questions for the Record

The Honorable Joseph R. Pitts

Throughout the hearing, members of the panel either made or agreed with the assertion that H.R. 5068 will not work in a vacuum; HHS must also have clear, effective, and enforced policies, procedures, and processes for ensuring that cybersecurity is a priority throughout the Department.

1. Please describe the policies, procedures, and processes that you believe HHS currently has in place for ensuring that cybersecurity is a priority throughout the Department.

2. Are there policies, procedures, and processes that you believe HHS should adopt in order to be more effective with regards to cybersecurity?

3. Are there policies, procedures, or processes that you believe that HHS should consider reforming or removing in order to be more effective with regards to cybersecurity?

Throughout the hearing, members of the panel emphasized that, in addition to its organizational structure, it is critically important the roles and responsibilities for officials within HHS in regards to cybersecurity are clear and effective.

4. Please describe the responsibilities and authorities that you believe the following HHS officials should have with regards to cybersecurity:

    - The Secretary of Health;
    - The HHS CIO;
    - The HHS CISO;
    - Any other officials (such as the General Counsel, CFO, etc.).

In the hearing, the panel discussed the fact that, as currently drafted, H.R. 5068 makes the newly elevated CISO a presidential appointment. Concerns were raised about that, stating that it might overly politicize the position.

5. Would the position be more effective if it wasn't a presidential appointment?