

Markup re Bill to Amend the Communications Act of 1934

Rep. Eliot Engel

October 11, 2017

- Madame Chairman, I'd like to strike the last word.
- I am pleased that the Manager's Amendment we're considering today includes text from my Interagency Cybersecurity Cooperation Act.
- It seems like every day we hear new stories about how our networks are under assault. When these attacks include those by foreign governments, we cannot expect private companies to stand alone.
- The federal government must stand with them when it comes to national defense and security.
- Neither the public nor the private sector can solve this problem on its own.
- That's why the language included in the Manager's Amendment creates an advisory committee within the National Telecommunication and Information Administration that will review communications security reports, recommend investigations, and share findings with Congress.
- This advisory committee will be made up of officials from across the federal government so that we can bring all of our federal resources to bear on protecting these crucial networks.
- It is long past time that we take more aggressive action to protect our country from cyber attacks.
- Madame Chairman, I understand that some of our colleagues on both sides of the aisle have suggestions for how we can improve the cybersecurity language we've included in today's Manager's Amendment. I am amenable to working on that language before full committee markup and I hope that you will agree to work on that with me.