

**AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE
TO H.R. 3385
OFFERED BY M . _____**

Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the following:

1 SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

2 This Act may be cited as the “DiasporaLink Act”.

**3 SEC. 2. ASSESSMENT OF TRANS-ATLANTIC SUBMARINE
4 FIBER OPTIC CABLE.**

5 (a) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date
6 of the enactment of this Act, the Assistant Secretary, in
7 consultation with the heads of other Federal departments
8 and agencies as necessary, shall submit to the Committee
9 on Energy and Commerce of the House of Representatives
10 and the Committee on Commerce, Science, and Transpor-
11 tation of the Senate a report containing an assessment
12 of the value, cost, and feasibility of a trans-Atlantic sub-
13 marine fiber optic cable connecting the contiguous United
14 States, the United States Virgin Islands, Ghana, and Ni-
15 geria.

16 (b) ELEMENTS.—The report required by subsection
17 (a) shall include an assessment of—

1 (1) the digital security, national security, and
2 economic opportunities associated with a trans-At-
3 lantic submarine fiber optic cable described in sub-
4 section (a);

5 (2) the lifespan of submarine fiber optic cables
6 currently connecting the United States Virgin Is-
7 lands to the contiguous United States;

8 (3) the current security of telecommunications
9 between the contiguous United States and the
10 United States Virgin Islands;

11 (4) the readiness of telecommunications infra-
12 structure in the United States Virgin Islands to sup-
13 port a trans-Atlantic submarine fiber optic cable de-
14 scribed in subsection (a);

15 (5) the potential for engagement with trusted
16 entities in the deployment of a trans-Atlantic sub-
17 marine fiber optic cable described in subsection (a),
18 and the associated geopolitical and economic advan-
19 tages;

20 (6) the potential connectivity opportunities to
21 maximize investments in the United States economy
22 through the use of a trans-Atlantic submarine fiber
23 optic cable described in subsection (a);

24 (7) the value, cost, and feasibility of estab-
25 lishing a data center and high-security cloud services

1 facility, with independent power generation, in the
2 United States Virgin Islands for military and na-
3 tional security communications; and

4 (8) any other related matters the Assistant Sec-
5 retary determines are appropriate.

6 (c) NO MANDATORY DATA COLLECTION.—The As-
7 sistant Secretary may not require any entity to provide
8 data for purposes of preparing the report required by sub-
9 section (a).

10 (d) FORM.—The report required by subsection (a)
11 shall be submitted in unclassified form without any des-
12 ignation relating to dissemination control, but may include
13 a classified annex.

14 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

15 (1) ASSISTANT SECRETARY.—The term “Assist-
16 ant Secretary” means the Assistant Secretary of
17 Commerce for Communications and Information.

18 (2) NOT TRUSTED.—The term “not trusted”
19 means, with respect to an entity, that the entity is
20 determined by the Assistant Secretary to pose an
21 unacceptable risk to the national security of the
22 United States, or the security and safety of United
23 States persons, based solely on one or more deter-
24 mination described under paragraphs (1) through
25 (4) of section 2(c) of the Secure and Trusted Com-

1 munications Networks Act of 2019 (47 U.S.C.
2 1601(c)).

3 (3) TRUSTED.—The term “trusted” means,
4 with respect to an entity, that the Assistant Sec-
5 retary has not determined that the entity is not
6 trusted.

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to direct the Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information to submit to Congress a report containing an assessment of the value, cost, and feasibility of a trans-Atlantic submarine fiber optic cable connecting the contiguous United States, the United States Virgin Islands, Ghana, and Nigeria, and for other purposes.”.

