

117TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

**S.** \_\_\_\_\_

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish the Cyber Incident Review Office in the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

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IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

Mr. PETERS (for himself and Mr. PORTMAN) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on

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**A BILL**

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish the Cyber Incident Review Office in the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of the Department of Homeland Security, 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 “Cyber Incident Report-  
5 ing Act of 2021”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

1 (1) COVERED CYBER INCIDENT; COVERED ENTI-  
2 TY; CYBER INCIDENT.—The terms “covered cyber  
3 incident”, “covered entity”, and “cyber incident”  
4 have the meanings given those terms in section 2230  
5 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by  
6 section 3(b) of this Act.

7 (2) CYBER ATTACK; RANSOM PAYMENT;  
8 RANSOMWARE ATTACK.—The terms “cyber attack”,  
9 “ransom payment”, and “ransomware attack” have  
10 the meanings given those terms in section 2201 of  
11 the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 651),  
12 as amended by section 3(a) of this Act.

13 (3) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means  
14 the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure  
15 Security Agency.

16 (4) INFORMATION SYSTEM; SECURITY VULNER-  
17 ABILITY.—The terms “information system” and “se-  
18 curity vulnerability” have the meanings given those  
19 terms in section 102 of the Cybersecurity Act of  
20 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1501).

21 **SEC. 3. CYBER INCIDENT REPORTING.**

22 (a) DEFINITIONS.—

23 (1) IN GENERAL.—Section 2201 of the Home-  
24 land Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 651) is amend-  
25 ed—

1 (A) by redesignating paragraphs (1), (2),  
2 (3), (4), (5), and (6) as paragraphs (2), (4),  
3 (5), (7), (10), and (11), respectively;

4 (B) by inserting before paragraph (2), as  
5 so redesignated, the following:

6 “(1) CLOUD SERVICE PROVIDER.—The term  
7 ‘cloud service provider’ means an entity offering  
8 products or services related to cloud computing, as  
9 defined by the National Institutes of Standards and  
10 Technology in NIST Special Publication 800–145  
11 and any amendatory or superseding document relat-  
12 ing thereto.”;

13 (C) by inserting after paragraph (2), as so  
14 redesignated, the following:

15 “(3) CYBER ATTACK.—The term ‘cyber attack’  
16 means the use of unauthorized or malicious code on  
17 an information system, or the use of another digital  
18 mechanism such as a denial of service attack, to in-  
19 terrupt or disrupt the operations of an information  
20 system or compromise the confidentiality, avail-  
21 ability, or integrity of electronic data stored on,  
22 processed by, or transiting an information system.”;

23 (D) by inserting after paragraph (5), as so  
24 redesignated, the following:

1           “(6) MANAGED SERVICE PROVIDER.—The term  
2           ‘managed service provider’ means an entity that de-  
3           livers services, such as network, application, infra-  
4           structure, or security services, via ongoing and reg-  
5           ular support and active administration on the prem-  
6           ises of a customer, in the data center of the entity  
7           (such as hosting), or in a third party data center.”;

8           (E) by inserting after paragraph (7), as so  
9           redesignated, the following:

10           “(8) RANSOM PAYMENT.—The term ‘ransom  
11           payment’ means the transmission of any money or  
12           other property or asset, including virtual currency,  
13           or any portion thereof, which has at any time been  
14           delivered as ransom in connection with a  
15           ransomware attack.

16           “(9) RANSOMWARE ATTACK.—The term  
17           ‘ransomware attack’—

18           “(A) means a cyber attack that includes  
19           the threat of use of unauthorized or malicious  
20           code on an information system, or the threat of  
21           use of another digital mechanism such as a de-  
22           nial of service attack, to interrupt or disrupt  
23           the operations of an information system or com-  
24           promise the confidentiality, availability, or in-  
25           tegrity of electronic data stored on, processed

1 by, or transiting an information system to ex-  
2 tort a demand for a ransom payment; and

3 “(B) does not include any such event  
4 where the demand for payment is made by a  
5 Federal Government entity, good-faith security  
6 research, or in response to an invitation by the  
7 owner or operator of the information system for  
8 third parties to identify vulnerabilities in the in-  
9 formation system.”; and

10 (F) by adding at the end the following:

11 “(13) SUPPLY CHAIN COMPROMISE.—The term  
12 ‘supply chain compromise’ means a cyber attack that  
13 allows an adversary to utilize implants or other  
14 vulnerabilities inserted prior to installation in order  
15 to infiltrate data, or manipulate information tech-  
16 nology hardware, software, operating systems, pe-  
17 ripherals (such as information technology products),  
18 or services at any point during the life cycle.

19 “(14) VIRTUAL CURRENCY.—The term ‘virtual  
20 currency’ means the digital representation of value  
21 that functions as a medium of exchange, a unit of  
22 account, or a store of value.

23 “(15) VIRTUAL CURRENCY ADDRESS.—The  
24 term ‘virtual currency address’ means a unique pub-

1       lic cryptographic key identifying the location to  
2       which a virtual currency payment can be made.”.

3               (2)     CONFORMING     AMENDMENT.—Section  
4       9002(A)(7) of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry Na-  
5       tional Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year  
6       2021 (6 U.S.C. 652a(a)(7)) is amended to read as  
7       follows:

8               “(7)   SECTOR RISK MANAGEMENT AGENCY.—  
9       The term ‘Sector Risk Management Agency’ has the  
10      meaning given the term in section 2201 of the  
11      Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 651).”.

12      (b)   CYBER INCIDENT REPORTING.—Title XXII of  
13      the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 651 et seq.)  
14      is amended by adding at the end the following:

15               **“Subtitle C—Cyber Incident**  
16               **Reporting**

17      **“SEC. 2230. DEFINITIONS.**

18               “(a)   IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection  
19      (b), the definitions under section 2201 shall apply to this  
20      subtitle.

21               “(b)   ADDITIONAL DEFINITIONS.—In this subtitle:

22               “(1)   COUNCIL.—The term ‘Council’ means the  
23      Cyber Incident Reporting Council described in sec-  
24      tion 1752(c)(1)(H) of the William M. (Mac) Thorn-

1 berry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal  
2 Year 2021 (6 U.S.C. 1500(c)(1)(H)).

3 “(2) COVERED CYBER INCIDENT.—The term  
4 ‘covered cyber incident’ means a substantial cyber  
5 incident experienced by a covered entity that satis-  
6 fies the definition and criteria established by the Di-  
7 rector in the interim final rule and final rule issued  
8 pursuant to section 2232.

9 “(3) COVERED ENTITY.—The term ‘covered en-  
10 tity’ means an entity that owns or operates critical  
11 infrastructure that satisfies the definition estab-  
12 lished by the Director in the interim final rule and  
13 final rule issued pursuant to section 2232.

14 “(4) CYBER INCIDENT.—The term ‘cyber inci-  
15 dent’ has the meaning given the term ‘incident’ in  
16 section 2209(a).

17 “(5) CYBER THREAT.—The term ‘cyber  
18 threat’—

19 “(A) has the meaning given the term ‘cy-  
20 bersecurity threat’ in section 102 of the Cyber-  
21 security Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1501); and

22 “(B) does not include any activity related  
23 to good faith security research, including par-  
24 ticipation in a bug-bounty program or a vulner-  
25 ability disclosure program.





1 micro-purchase threshold, as defined  
2 in section 2.101 of title 48, Code of  
3 Federal Regulations, or any successor  
4 regulation.

5 **“SEC. 2231. CYBER INCIDENT REVIEW OFFICE.**

6 “(a) CYBER INCIDENT REVIEW OFFICE.—There is  
7 established in the Agency a Cyber Incident Review Office  
8 (in this section referred to as the ‘Office’) to receive, ag-  
9 gregate, and analyze reports related to covered cyber inci-  
10 dents submitted by covered entities in furtherance of the  
11 activities specified in subsection (c) of this section and sec-  
12 tions 2202(e), 2203, and 2209(c) and any other author-  
13 ized activity of the Director to enhance the situational  
14 awareness of cyber threats across critical infrastructure  
15 sectors.

16 “(b) ACTIVITIES.—The Office shall, in furtherance of  
17 the activities specified in sections 2202(e), 2203, and  
18 2209(c)—

19 “(1) receive, aggregate, analyze, and secure,  
20 consistent with the requirements under the Cyberse-  
21 curity Information Sharing Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C.  
22 1501 et seq.) reports from covered entities related to  
23 a covered cyber incident to assess the effectiveness  
24 of security controls and identify tactics, techniques,

1 and procedures adversaries use to overcome those  
2 controls;

3 “(2) receive, aggregate, analyze, and secure re-  
4 ports related to ransom payments to identify tactics,  
5 techniques, and procedures, including identifying  
6 and tracking ransom payments utilizing virtual cur-  
7 rencies, adversaries use to perpetuate ransomware  
8 attacks and facilitate ransom payments;

9 “(3) leverage information gathered about cyber-  
10 security incidents to—

11 “(A) enhance the quality and effectiveness  
12 of information sharing and coordination efforts  
13 with appropriate entities, including agencies,  
14 sector coordinating councils, information shar-  
15 ing and analysis organizations, technology pro-  
16 viders, cybersecurity and incident response  
17 firms, and security researchers; and

18 “(B) provide appropriate entities, including  
19 agencies, sector coordinating councils, informa-  
20 tion sharing and analysis organizations, tech-  
21 nology providers, cybersecurity and incident re-  
22 sponse firms, and security researchers, with  
23 timely, actionable, and anonymized reports of  
24 cyber attack campaigns and trends, including,  
25 to the maximum extent practicable, related con-

1 textual information, cyber threat indicators, and  
2 defensive measures;

3 “(4) establish mechanisms to receive feedback  
4 from stakeholders on how the Agency can most ef-  
5 fectively receive covered cyber incident reports, ran-  
6 som payment reports, and other voluntarily provided  
7 information;

8 “(5) facilitate the timely sharing, on a vol-  
9 untary basis, between relevant critical infrastructure  
10 owners and operators of information relating to cov-  
11 ered cyber incidents and ransom payments, particu-  
12 larly with respect to ongoing cyber threats or secu-  
13 rity vulnerabilities and identify and disseminate  
14 ways to prevent or mitigate similar incidents in the  
15 future;

16 “(6) for a covered cyber incident, including a  
17 ransomware attack, that also satisfies the definition  
18 of a substantial cyber incident, or is part of a group  
19 of related cyber incidents that together satisfy such  
20 definition, conduct a review of the details sur-  
21 rounding the covered cyber incident or group of  
22 those incidents and identify and disseminate ways to  
23 prevent or mitigate similar incidents in the future;

24 “(7) with respect to covered cyber incident re-  
25 ports under subsection (c) involving an ongoing

1 cyber threat or security vulnerability, immediately  
2 review those reports for cyber threat indicators that  
3 can be anonymized and disseminated, with defensive  
4 measures, to appropriate stakeholders, in coordina-  
5 tion with other divisions within the Agency, as ap-  
6 propriate;

7 “(8) publish quarterly unclassified, public re-  
8 ports that may be based on the unclassified informa-  
9 tion contained in the reports required under sub-  
10 section (c);

11 “(9) proactively identify opportunities and per-  
12 form analyses, consistent with the protections in sec-  
13 tion 2235, to leverage and utilize data on ransom at-  
14 tacks to support law enforcement operations to iden-  
15 tify, track, and seize ransom payments utilizing vir-  
16 tual currencies, to the greatest extent practicable;

17 “(10) proactively identify opportunities, con-  
18 sistent with the protections in section 2235, to lever-  
19 age and utilize data on cyber incidents in a manner  
20 that enables and strengthens cybersecurity research  
21 carried out by academic institutions and other pri-  
22 vate sector organizations, to the greatest extent  
23 practicable;

24 “(11) on a not less frequently than annual  
25 basis, analyze public disclosures made pursuant to

1 parts 229 and 249 of title 17, Code of Federal Reg-  
2 ulations, or any subsequent document submitted to  
3 the Securities and Exchange Commission by entities  
4 experiencing cyber incidents and compare such dis-  
5 closures to reports received by the Office; and

6 “(12) in accordance with section 2235, not later  
7 than 24 hours after receiving a covered cyber inci-  
8 dent report or ransom payment report, share the re-  
9 ported information with appropriate Sector Risk  
10 Management Agencies and other appropriate agen-  
11 cies as determined by the Director of Office Manage-  
12 ment and Budget, in consultation with the Director  
13 and the National Cyber Director.

14 “(c) PERIODIC REPORTING.—Not later than 60 days  
15 after the effective date of the interim final rule required  
16 under section 2232(b)(1), and on the first day of each  
17 month thereafter, the Director, in consultation with the  
18 Attorney General and the Director of National Intel-  
19 ligence, shall submit to the National Cyber Director, the  
20 majority leader of the Senate, the minority leader of the  
21 Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the  
22 minority leader of the House of Representatives, the Com-  
23 mittee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs  
24 of the Senate, and the Committee on Homeland Security  
25 of the House of Representatives a report that character-

1 izes the cyber threat facing Federal agencies and covered  
2 entities, including applicable intelligence and law enforce-  
3 ment information, covered cyber incidents, and  
4 ransomware attacks, as of the date of the report, which  
5 shall—

6 “(1) include the total number of reports sub-  
7 mitted under sections 2232 and 2233 during the  
8 preceding month, including a breakdown of required  
9 and voluntary reports;

10 “(2) include any identified trends in covered  
11 cyber incidents and ransomware attacks over the  
12 course of the preceding month and as compared to  
13 previous reports, including any trends related to the  
14 information collected in the reports submitted under  
15 sections 2232 and 2233, including—

16 “(A) the infrastructure, tactics, and tech-  
17 niques malicious cyber actors commonly use;  
18 and

19 “(B) intelligence gaps that have, or cur-  
20 rently are, impeding the ability to counter cov-  
21 ered cyber incidents and ransomware threats;

22 “(3) include a summary of the known uses of  
23 the information in reports submitted under sections  
24 2232 and 2233; and

1 “(4) be unclassified, but may include a classi-  
2 fied annex.

3 “(d) ORGANIZATION.—The Director may organize  
4 the Office within the Agency as the Director deems appro-  
5 priate, including harmonizing the functions of the Office  
6 with other authorized activities.

7 **“SEC. 2232. REQUIRED REPORTING OF CERTAIN CYBER IN-**  
8 **CIDENTS.**

9 “(a) IN GENERAL.—

10 “(1) COVERED CYBER INCIDENT REPORTS.—A  
11 covered entity shall report a covered cyber incident  
12 to the Director not later than 72 hours after the  
13 covered entity reasonably believes that a covered  
14 cyber incident has occurred.

15 “(2) RANSOM PAYMENT REPORTS.—An entity,  
16 including a covered entity and except for an indi-  
17 vidual or a small business, that makes a ransom  
18 payment as the result of a ransomware attack  
19 against the entity shall report the payment to the  
20 Director not later than 24 hours after the ransom  
21 payment has been made.

22 “(3) SUPPLEMENTAL REPORTS.—A covered en-  
23 tity shall promptly submit to the Director an update  
24 or supplement to a previously submitted covered  
25 cyber incident report if new or different information

1 becomes available or if the covered entity makes a  
2 ransom payment after submitting a covered cyber in-  
3 cident report required under paragraph (1).

4 “(4) PRESERVATION OF INFORMATION.—Any  
5 entity subject to requirements of paragraph (1), (2),  
6 or (3) shall preserve data relevant to the covered  
7 cyber incident or ransom payment in accordance  
8 with procedures established in the interim final rule  
9 and final rule issued pursuant to subsection (b).

10 “(5) EXCEPTIONS.—

11 “(A) REPORTING OF COVERED CYBER IN-  
12 CIDENT WITH RANSOM PAYMENT.—If a covered  
13 cyber incident includes a ransom payment such  
14 that the reporting requirements under para-  
15 graphs (1) and (2) apply, the covered entity  
16 may submit a single report to satisfy the re-  
17 quirements of both paragraphs in accordance  
18 with procedures established in the interim final  
19 rule and final rule issued pursuant to sub-  
20 section (b).

21 “(B) SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR REPORTED  
22 INFORMATION.—The requirements under para-  
23 graphs (1), (2), and (3) shall not apply to an  
24 entity required by law, regulation, or contract  
25 to report substantially similar information to



1 another Federal agency within a substantially  
2 similar timeframe.

3 “(6) MANNER, TIMING, AND FORM OF RE-  
4 PORTS.—Reports made under paragraphs (1), (2),  
5 and (3) shall be made in the manner and form, and  
6 within the time period in the case of reports made  
7 under paragraph (3), prescribed according to the in-  
8 terim final rule and final rule issued pursuant to  
9 subsection (b).

10 “(7) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Paragraphs (1)  
11 through (4) shall take effect on the dates prescribed  
12 in the interim final rule and the final rule issued  
13 pursuant to subsection (b), except that the require-  
14 ments of paragraph (1) through (4) shall not be ef-  
15 fective for a period for more than 18 months after  
16 the effective date of the interim final rule if the Di-  
17 rector has not issued a final rule pursuant to sub-  
18 section (b)(2).

19 “(b) RULEMAKING.—

20 “(1) INTERIM FINAL RULE.—Not later than  
21 270 days after the date of enactment of this section,  
22 and after a 60-day consultative period, followed by  
23 a 90-day comment period with appropriate stake-  
24 holders, the Director, in consultation with Sector  
25 Risk Management Agencies and the heads of other

1 Federal agencies, shall publish in the Federal Reg-  
2 ister an interim final rule to implement subsection  
3 (a).

4 “(2) FINAL RULE.—Not later than 1 year after  
5 publication of the interim final rule under paragraph  
6 (1), the Director shall publish a final rule to imple-  
7 ment subsection (a).

8 “(3) SUBSEQUENT RULEMAKINGS.—Any rule to  
9 implement subsection (a) issued after publication of  
10 the final rule under paragraph (2), including a rule  
11 to amend or revise the final rule issued under para-  
12 graph (2), shall comply with the requirements under  
13 chapter 5 of title 5, United States Code, including  
14 the issuance of a notice of proposed rulemaking  
15 under section 553 of such title.

16 “(c) ELEMENTS.—The interim final rule and final  
17 rule issued pursuant to subsection (b) shall be composed  
18 of the following elements:

19 “(1) A clear description of the types of entities  
20 that constitute covered entities, based on—

21 “(A) the consequences that disruption to  
22 or compromise of such an entity could cause to  
23 national security, economic security, or public  
24 health and safety;

1           “(B) the likelihood that such an entity  
2           may be targeted by a malicious cyber actor, in-  
3           cluding a foreign country; and

4           “(C) the extent to which damage, disrup-  
5           tion, or unauthorized access to such an entity,  
6           including the accessing of sensitive cybersecu-  
7           rity vulnerability information or penetration  
8           testing tools or techniques, will likely enable the  
9           disruption of the reliable operation of critical  
10          infrastructure.

11          “(2) A clear description of the types of substan-  
12          tial cyber incidents that constitute covered cyber in-  
13          cidents, which shall—

14                 “(A) at a minimum, require the occurrence  
15                 of—

16                         “(i) the unauthorized access to an in-  
17                         formation system or network with a sub-  
18                         stantial loss of confidentiality, integrity, or  
19                         availability of such information system or  
20                         network, or a serious impact on the safety  
21                         and resiliency of operational systems and  
22                         processes;

23                         “(ii) a disruption of business or indus-  
24                         trial operations due to a cyber incident; or

1           “(iii) an occurrence described in  
2           clause (i) or (ii) due to loss of service fa-  
3           cilitated through, or caused by, a com-  
4           promise of a cloud service provider, man-  
5           aged service provider, or other third-party  
6           data hosting provider or by a supply chain  
7           compromise;

8           “(B) consider—

9           “(i) the sophistication or novelty of  
10          the tactics used to perpetrate such an inci-  
11          dent, as well as the type, volume, and sen-  
12          sitivity of the data at issue;

13          “(ii) the number of individuals di-  
14          rectly or indirectly affected or potentially  
15          affected by such an incident; and

16          “(iii) potential impacts on industrial  
17          control systems, such as supervisory con-  
18          trol and data acquisition systems, distrib-  
19          uted control systems, and programmable  
20          logic controllers; and

21          “(C) exclude—

22          “(i) any event where the cyber inci-  
23          dent is perpetuated by a United States  
24          Government entity, good-faith security re-  
25          search, or in response to an invitation by

1 the owner or operator of the information  
2 system for third parties to find  
3 vulnerabilities in the information system,  
4 such as a through a vulnerability disclo-  
5 sure program or the use of authorized pen-  
6 etration testing services; and

7 “(ii) the threat of disruption as extor-  
8 tion, as described in section 2201(8)(B).

9 “(3) A requirement that, if a covered cyber inci-  
10 dent or a ransom payment occurs following an ex-  
11 empted threat described in paragraph (2)(C)(ii), the  
12 entity shall comply with the requirements in this  
13 subtitle in reporting the covered cyber incident or  
14 ransom payment.

15 “(4) A clear description of the specific required  
16 contents of a report pursuant to subsection (a)(1),  
17 which shall include the following information, to the  
18 extent applicable and available, with respect to a  
19 covered cyber incident:

20 “(A) A description of the covered cyber in-  
21 cident, including—

22 “(i) identification and a description of  
23 the function of the affected information  
24 systems, networks, or devices that were, or

1           are reasonably believed to have been, af-  
2           fected by such incident;

3           “(ii) a description of the unauthorized  
4           access with substantial loss of confiden-  
5           tiality, integrity, or availability of the af-  
6           fected information system or network or  
7           disruption of business or industrial oper-  
8           ations;

9           “(iii) the estimated date range of such  
10          incident; and

11          “(iv) the impact to the operations of  
12          the covered entity.

13          “(B) Where applicable, a description of the  
14          vulnerabilities, tactics, techniques, and proce-  
15          dures used to perpetuate the covered cyber inci-  
16          dent.

17          “(C) Where applicable, any identifying or  
18          contact information related to each actor rea-  
19          sonably believed to be responsible for such inci-  
20          dent.

21          “(D) Where applicable, identification of  
22          the category or categories of information that  
23          was, or is reasonably believed to have been,  
24          accessed or acquired by an unauthorized per-  
25          son.

1           “(E) The name and, if applicable, taxpayer  
2           identification number or other unique identifier  
3           of the entity impacted by the covered cyber inci-  
4           dent.

5           “(F) Contact information, such as tele-  
6           phone number or electronic mail address, that  
7           the Office may use to contact the covered entity  
8           or an authorized agent of such covered entity,  
9           or, where applicable, the service provider of  
10          such covered entity acting with the express per-  
11          mission, and at the direction, of the covered en-  
12          tity to assist with compliance with the require-  
13          ments of this subtitle.

14          “(5) A clear description of the specific required  
15          contents of a report pursuant to subsection (a)(2),  
16          which shall be the following information, to the ex-  
17          tent applicable and available, with respect to a ran-  
18          som payment:

19                 “(A) A description of the ransomware at-  
20                 tack, including the estimated date range of the  
21                 attack.

22                 “(B) Where applicable, a description of the  
23                 vulnerabilities, tactics, techniques, and proce-  
24                 dures used to perpetuate the ransomware at-  
25                 tack.

1           “(C) Where applicable, any identifying or  
2 contact information related to the actor or ac-  
3 tors reasonably believed to be responsible for  
4 the ransomware attack.

5           “(D) The name and, if applicable, taxpayer  
6 identification number or other unique identifier  
7 of the entity that made the ransom payment.

8           “(E) Contact information, such as tele-  
9 phone number or electronic mail address, that  
10 the Office may use to contact the entity that  
11 made the ransom payment or an authorized  
12 agent of such covered entity, or, where applica-  
13 ble, the service provider of such covered entity  
14 acting with the express permission, and at the  
15 direction of, that entity to assist with compli-  
16 ance with the requirements of this subtitle.

17           “(F) The date of the ransom payment.

18           “(G) The ransom payment demand, includ-  
19 ing the type of virtual currency or other com-  
20 modity requested, if applicable.

21           “(H) The ransom payment instructions,  
22 including information regarding where to send  
23 the payment, such as the virtual currency ad-  
24 dress or physical address the funds were re-  
25 quested to be sent to, if applicable.



1 “(I) The amount of the ransom payment.

2 “(J) A summary of the due diligence re-  
3 view required under subsection (e).

4 “(6) A clear description of the types of data re-  
5 quired to be preserved pursuant to subsection (a)(4)  
6 and the period of time for which the data is required  
7 to be preserved.

8 “(7) Deadlines for submitting reports to the Di-  
9 rector required under subsection (a)(3), which  
10 shall—

11 “(A) be established by the Director in con-  
12 sultation with the Council;

13 “(B) consider any existing regulatory re-  
14 porting requirements similar in scope, purpose,  
15 and timing to the reporting requirements to  
16 which such a covered entity may also be sub-  
17 ject, and make efforts to harmonize the timing  
18 and contents of any such reports to the max-  
19 imum extent practicable; and

20 “(C) balance the need for situational  
21 awareness with the ability of the covered entity  
22 to conduct incident response and investigations.

23 “(8) Procedures for—

24 “(A) entities to submit reports required by  
25 paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of subsection (a),

1           which shall include, at a minimum, a concise,  
2           user-friendly web-based form;

3           “(B) the Office to carry out the enforce-  
4           ment provisions of section 2233, including with  
5           respect to the issuance of subpoenas and other  
6           aspects of noncompliance;

7           “(C) implementing the exceptions provided  
8           in subparagraphs (A), (B), and (D) of sub-  
9           section (a)(5); and

10           “(D) anonymizing and safeguarding infor-  
11           mation received and disclosed through covered  
12           cyber incident reports and ransom payment re-  
13           ports that is known to be personal information  
14           of a specific individual or information that iden-  
15           tifies a specific individual that is not directly re-  
16           lated to a cybersecurity threat.

17           “(d) THIRD PARTY REPORT SUBMISSION AND RAN-  
18           SOM PAYMENT.—

19           “(1) REPORT SUBMISSION.—An entity, includ-  
20           ing a covered entity, that is required to submit a  
21           covered cyber incident report or a ransom payment  
22           report may use a third party, such as an incident re-  
23           sponse company, insurance provider, service pro-  
24           vider, information sharing and analysis organization,

1 or law firm, to submit the required report under  
2 subsection (a).

3 “(2) RANSOM PAYMENT.—If an entity impacted  
4 by a ransomware attack uses a third party to make  
5 a ransom payment, the third party shall not be re-  
6 quired to submit a ransom payment report for itself  
7 under subsection (a)(2).

8 “(3) DUTY TO REPORT.—Third-party reporting  
9 under this subparagraph does not relieve a covered  
10 entity or an entity that makes a ransom payment  
11 from the duty to comply with the requirements for  
12 covered cyber incident report or ransom payment re-  
13 port submission.

14 “(4) RESPONSIBILITY TO ADVISE.—Any third  
15 party used by an entity that knowingly makes a ran-  
16 som payment on behalf of an entity impacted by a  
17 ransomware attack shall advise the impacted entity  
18 of the responsibilities of the impacted entity regard-  
19 ing a due diligence review under subsection (e) and  
20 reporting ransom payments under this section.

21 “(e) DUE DILIGENCE REVIEW.—Before the date on  
22 which a covered entity, or an entity that would be required  
23 to submit a ransom payment report under this section if  
24 that entity makes a ransom payment, makes a ransom  
25 payment relating to a ransomware attack, the covered en-

1 tity or entity shall conduct a due diligence review of alter-  
2 natives to making the ransom payment, including an anal-  
3 ysis of whether the covered entity or entity can recover  
4 from the ransomware attack through other means.

5 “(f) OUTREACH TO COVERED ENTITIES.—

6 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall conduct  
7 an outreach and education campaign to inform likely  
8 covered entities, entities that offer or advertise as a  
9 service to customers to make or facilitate ransom  
10 payments on behalf of entities impacted by  
11 ransomware attacks, potential ransomware attack  
12 victims, and other appropriate entities of the re-  
13 quirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of sub-  
14 section (a).

15 “(2) ELEMENTS.—The outreach and education  
16 campaign under paragraph (1) shall include the fol-  
17 lowing:

18 “(A) An overview of the interim final rule  
19 and final rule issued pursuant to subsection (b).

20 “(B) An overview of mechanisms to submit  
21 to the Office covered cyber incident reports and  
22 information relating to the disclosure, retention,  
23 and use of incident reports under this section.

24 “(C) An overview of the protections af-  
25 farded to covered entities for complying with

1 the requirements under paragraphs (1), (2),  
2 and (3) of subsection (a).

3 “(D) An overview of the steps taken under  
4 section 2234 when a covered entity is not in  
5 compliance with the reporting requirements  
6 under subsection (a).

7 “(E) Specific outreach to cybersecurity  
8 vendors, incident response providers, cybersecu-  
9 rity insurance entities, and other entities that  
10 may support covered entities or ransomware at-  
11 tack victims.

12 “(F) An overview of the privacy and civil  
13 liberties requirements in this subtitle.

14 “(3) COORDINATION.—In conducting the out-  
15 reach and education campaign required under para-  
16 graph (1), the Director may coordinate with—

17 “(A) the Critical Infrastructure Partner-  
18 ship Advisory Council established under section  
19 871;

20 “(B) information sharing and analysis or-  
21 ganizations;

22 “(C) trade associations;

23 “(D) information sharing and analysis cen-  
24 ters;

25 “(E) sector coordinating councils; and

1                   “(F) any other entity as determined appro-  
2                   priate by the Director.

3                   “(g) EVALUATION OF STANDARDS.—

4                   “(1) IN GENERAL.—Before issuing the final  
5                   rule pursuant to subsection (b)(2), the Director shall  
6                   review the data collected by the Office, and in con-  
7                   sultation with other appropriate entities, assess the  
8                   effectiveness of the rule with respect to—

9                   “(A) the number of reports received;

10                  “(B) the utility of the reports received;

11                  “(C) the number of supplemental reports  
12                  required to be submitted; and

13                  “(D) any other factor determined appro-  
14                  priate by the Director.

15                  “(2) SUBMISSION TO CONGRESS.—The Director  
16                  shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Secu-  
17                  rity and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the  
18                  Committee on Homeland Security of the House of  
19                  Representatives the results of the evaluation de-  
20                  scribed in paragraph (1) and may thereafter, in ac-  
21                  cordance with the requirements under subsection  
22                  (b), publish in the Federal Register a final rule im-  
23                  plementing this section.

24                  “(h) ORGANIZATION OF REPORTS.—Notwithstanding  
25                  chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly

1 known as the ‘Paperwork Reduction Act’), the Director  
2 may reorganize and reformat the means by which covered  
3 cyber incident reports, ransom payment reports, and any  
4 other voluntarily offered information is submitted to the  
5 Office.

6 **“SEC. 2233. VOLUNTARY REPORTING OF OTHER CYBER IN-**  
7 **CIDENTS.**

8 “(a) IN GENERAL.—Entities may voluntarily report  
9 incidents or ransom payments to the Director that are not  
10 required under paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of section  
11 2232(a), but may enhance the situational awareness of  
12 cyber threats.

13 “(b) VOLUNTARY PROVISION OF ADDITIONAL INFOR-  
14 MATION IN REQUIRED REPORTS.—Entities may volun-  
15 tarily include in reports required under paragraph (1), (2),  
16 or (3) of section 2232(a) information that is not required  
17 to be included, but may enhance the situational awareness  
18 of cyber threats.

19 “(c) APPLICATION OF PROTECTIONS.—The protec-  
20 tions under section 2235 applicable to covered cyber inci-  
21 dent reports shall apply in the same manner and to the  
22 same extent to reports and information submitted under  
23 subsections (a) and (b).

1 **“SEC. 2234. NONCOMPLIANCE WITH REQUIRED REPORTING.**

2 “(a) PURPOSE.—In the event that an entity that is  
3 required to submit a report under section 2232(a) fails  
4 to comply with the requirement to report, the Director  
5 may obtain information about the incident or ransom pay-  
6 ment by engaging the entity directly to request informa-  
7 tion about the incident or ransom payment, and if the Di-  
8 rector is unable to obtain information through such en-  
9 gagement, by issuing a subpoena to the entity, pursuant  
10 to subsection (c), to gather information sufficient to deter-  
11 mine whether a covered cyber incident or ransom payment  
12 has occurred, and, if so, whether additional action is war-  
13 ranted pursuant to subsection (d).

14 “(b) INITIAL REQUEST FOR INFORMATION.—

15 “(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Director has reason  
16 to believe, whether through public reporting or other  
17 information in the possession of the Federal Govern-  
18 ment, including through analysis performed pursu-  
19 ant to paragraph (1) or (2) of section 2231(b), that  
20 an entity has experienced a covered cyber incident or  
21 made a ransom payment but failed to report such  
22 incident or payment to the Office within 72 hours in  
23 accordance to section 2232(a), the Director shall re-  
24 quest additional information from the entity to con-  
25 firm whether or not a covered cyber incident or ran-  
26 som payment has occurred.



1           “(2) TREATMENT.—Information provided to the  
2           Office in response to a request under paragraph (1)  
3           shall be treated as if it was submitted through the  
4           reporting procedures established in section 2232.

5           “(c) AUTHORITY TO ISSUE SUBPOENAS AND  
6           DEBAR.—

7           “(1) IN GENERAL.—If, after the date that is 72  
8           hours from the date on which the Director made the  
9           request for information in subsection (b), the Direc-  
10          tor has received no response from the entity from  
11          which such information was requested, or received  
12          an inadequate response, the Director may issue to  
13          such entity a subpoena to compel disclosure of infor-  
14          mation the Director deems necessary to determine  
15          whether a covered cyber incident or ransom payment  
16          has occurred.

17          “(2) CIVIL ACTION.—

18                 “(A) IN GENERAL.—If an entity fails to  
19                 comply with a subpoena, the Director may refer  
20                 the matter to the Attorney General to bring a  
21                 civil action in a district court of the United  
22                 States to enforce such subpoena.

23                 “(B) VENUE.—An action under this para-  
24                 graph may be brought in the judicial district in

1           which the entity against which the action is  
2           brought resides, is found, or does business.

3           “(C) CONTEMPT OF COURT.—A court may  
4           punish a failure to comply with a subpoena  
5           issued under this subsection as a contempt of  
6           court.

7           “(3) NON-DELEGATION.—The authority of the  
8           Director to issue a subpoena under this subsection  
9           may not be delegated.

10          “(4) DEBARMENT OF FEDERAL CONTRAC-  
11          TORS.—If a covered entity with a Federal Govern-  
12          ment contract, grant, or cooperative agreement fails  
13          to comply with a subpoena issued under this sub-  
14          section—

15                 “(A) the Director may refer the matter to  
16                 the Administrator of General Services; and

17                 “(B) upon receiving a referral from the Di-  
18                 rector, the Administrator of General Services  
19                 may impose additional available penalties, in-  
20                 cluding suspension or debarment.

21          “(d) PROVISION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION TO AT-  
22          TORNEY GENERAL.—

23                 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section  
24                 2235(a) and subsection (b)(2) of this section, if the  
25                 Director determines, based on the information pro-

1 vided in response to the subpoena issued pursuant to  
2 subsection (c), that the facts relating to the covered  
3 cyber incident or ransom payment at issue may con-  
4 stitute grounds for a regulatory enforcement action  
5 or criminal prosecution, the Director may provide  
6 that information to the Attorney General or the ap-  
7 propriate regulator, who may use that information  
8 for a regulatory enforcement action or criminal pros-  
9 ecution.

10 “(2) APPLICATION TO CERTAIN ENTITIES AND  
11 THIRD PARTIES.—A covered cyber incident or ran-  
12 som payment report submitted to the Office by an  
13 entity that makes a ransom payment or third party  
14 under section 2232 shall not be used by any Fed-  
15 eral, State, Tribal, or local government to investigate  
16 or take another law enforcement action against the  
17 entity that makes a ransom payment or third party.

18 “(3) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in  
19 this subtitle shall be construed to provide an entity  
20 that submits a covered cyber incident report or ran-  
21 som payment report under section 2232 any immu-  
22 nity from law enforcement action for making a ran-  
23 som payment otherwise prohibited by law.

1           “(e) CONSIDERATIONS.—When determining whether  
2 to exercise the authorities provided under this section, the  
3 Director shall take into consideration—

4           “(1) the size and complexity of the entity;

5           “(2) the complexity in determining if a covered  
6 cyber incident has occurred;

7           “(3) prior interaction with the Agency or  
8 awareness of the entity of the policies and proce-  
9 dures of the Agency for reporting covered cyber inci-  
10 dents and ransom payments; and

11           “(4) for non-covered entities required to submit  
12 a ransom payment report, the ability of the entity to  
13 perform a due diligence review pursuant to section  
14 2232(e).

15           “(f) EXCLUSIONS.—This section shall not apply to a  
16 State, local, Tribal, or territorial government entity.

17           “(g) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Director shall  
18 submit to Congress an annual report on the number of  
19 times the Director—

20           “(1) issued an initial request for information  
21 pursuant to subsection (b);

22           “(2) issued a subpoena pursuant to subsection  
23 (c);

24           “(3) brought a civil action pursuant to sub-  
25 section (c)(2); or

1           “(4) conducted additional actions pursuant to  
2           subsection (d).

3   **“SEC. 2235. INFORMATION SHARED WITH OR PROVIDED TO**  
4           **THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.**

5           “(a) DISCLOSURE, RETENTION, AND USE.—

6           “(1) AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.—Information  
7           provided to the Office or Agency pursuant to section  
8           2232 may be disclosed to, retained by, and used by,  
9           consistent with otherwise applicable provisions of  
10          Federal law, any Federal agency or department,  
11          component, officer, employee, or agent of the Fed-  
12          eral Government solely for—

13                   “(A) a cybersecurity purpose;

14                   “(B) the purpose of identifying—

15                           “(i) a cyber threat, including the  
16                           source of the cyber threat; or

17                           “(ii) a security vulnerability;

18                   “(C) the purpose of responding to, or oth-  
19                   erwise preventing or mitigating, a specific  
20                   threat of death, a specific threat of serious bod-  
21                   ily harm, or a specific threat of serious eco-  
22                   nomic harm, including a terrorist act or a use  
23                   of a weapon of mass destruction;

24                   “(D) the purpose of responding to, inves-  
25                   tigating, prosecuting, or otherwise preventing or

1 mitigating, a serious threat to a minor, includ-  
2 ing sexual exploitation and threats to physical  
3 safety; or

4 “(E) the purpose of preventing, inves-  
5 tigating, disrupting, or prosecuting an offense  
6 arising out of a covered cyber incident or any  
7 of the offenses listed in section 105(d)(5)(A)(v)  
8 of the Cybersecurity Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C.  
9 1504(d)(5)(A)(v)).

10 “(2) AGENCY ACTIONS AFTER RECEIPT.—

11 “(A) RAPID, CONFIDENTIAL SHARING OF  
12 CYBER THREAT INDICATORS.—Upon receiving a  
13 covered cyber incident or ransom payment re-  
14 port submitted pursuant to this section, the Of-  
15 fice shall immediately review the report to de-  
16 termine whether the incident that is the subject  
17 of the report is connected to an ongoing cyber  
18 threat or security vulnerability and where appli-  
19 cable, use such report to identify, develop, and  
20 rapidly disseminate to appropriate stakeholders  
21 actionable, anonymized cyber threat indicators  
22 and defensive measures.

23 “(B) STANDARDS FOR SHARING SECURITY  
24 VULNERABILITIES.—With respect to informa-  
25 tion in a covered cyber incident or ransom pay-

1           ment report regarding a security vulnerability  
2           referred to in paragraph (1)(B)(ii), the Director  
3           shall develop principles that govern the timing  
4           and manner in which information relating to se-  
5           curity vulnerabilities may be shared, consistent  
6           with common industry best practices and  
7           United States and international standards.

8           “(3) PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES.—Informa-  
9           tion contained in covered cyber incident and ransom  
10          payment reports submitted to the Office pursuant to  
11          section 2232 shall be retained, used, and dissemi-  
12          nated, where permissible and appropriate, by the  
13          Federal Government in accordance with processes to  
14          be developed for the protection of personal informa-  
15          tion adopted pursuant to section 105 of the Cyberse-  
16          curity Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1504) and in a manner  
17          that protects from unauthorized use or disclosure  
18          any information that may contain—

19                 “(A) personal information of a specific in-  
20                 dividual; or

21                 “(B) information that identifies a specific  
22                 individual that is not directly related to a cyber-  
23                 security threat.

24           “(4) DIGITAL SECURITY.—The Office shall en-  
25          sure that reports submitted to the Office pursuant

1 to section 2232, and any information contained in  
2 those reports, are collected, stored, and protected at  
3 a minimum in accordance with the requirements for  
4 moderate impact Federal information systems, as  
5 described in Federal Information Processing Stand-  
6 ards Publication 199, or any successor document.

7 “(5) PROHIBITION ON USE OF INFORMATION IN  
8 REGULATORY ACTIONS.—A Federal, State, local, or  
9 Tribal government shall not use information about a  
10 covered cyber incident or ransom payment obtained  
11 solely through reporting directly to the Office in ac-  
12 cordance with this subtitle to regulate, including  
13 through an enforcement action, the lawful activities  
14 of any non-Federal entity.

15 “(b) NO WAIVER OF PRIVILEGE OR PROTECTION.—  
16 The submission of a report under section 2232 to the Of-  
17 fice shall not constitute a waiver of any applicable privilege  
18 or protection provided by law, including trade secret pro-  
19 tection and attorney-client privilege.

20 “(c) EXEMPTION FROM DISCLOSURE.—Information  
21 contained in a report submitted to the Office under section  
22 2232 shall be exempt from disclosure under section  
23 552(b)(3)(B) of title 5, United States Code (commonly  
24 known as the ‘Freedom of Information Act’) and any



1 State, Tribal, or local provision of law requiring disclosure  
2 of information or records.

3 “(d) EX PARTE COMMUNICATIONS.—The submission  
4 of a report to the Agency under section 2232 shall not  
5 be subject to a rule of any Federal agency or department  
6 or any judicial doctrine regarding ex parte communica-  
7 tions with a decision making official.

8 “(e) LIABILITY PROTECTIONS.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—No cause of action shall lie  
10 or be maintained in any court by any person or enti-  
11 ty and any such action shall be promptly dismissed  
12 for the submission of a report pursuant to section  
13 2232(a) that is submitted in conformance with this  
14 subtitle and the rules promulgated under section  
15 2232(b), except that this subsection shall not apply  
16 with regard to an action by the Federal Government  
17 pursuant to section 2234(c)(2).

18 “(2) SCOPE.—The liability protections provided  
19 in subsection (e) shall only apply to or affect litiga-  
20 tion that is solely based on the submission of a cov-  
21 ered cyber incident report or ransom payment report  
22 to the Office, and nothing in this subtitle shall cre-  
23 ate a defense to a discovery request, or otherwise  
24 limit or affect the discovery of information from a

1 cause of action authorized under any Federal, State,  
2 local, or Tribal law.

3 “(f) SHARING WITH FEDERAL AND NON-FEDERAL  
4 ENTITIES.—The Agency shall anonymize the victim who  
5 reported the information when making information pro-  
6 vided in reports received under section 2232 available to  
7 critical infrastructure owners and operators and the gen-  
8 eral public.

9 “(g) PROPRIETARY INFORMATION.—Information  
10 contained in a report submitted to the Agency under sec-  
11 tion 2232 shall be considered the commercial, financial,  
12 and proprietary information of the covered entity when so  
13 designated by the covered entity.”.

14 (c) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—  
15 The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Se-  
16 curity Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–296; 116 Stat. 2135)  
17 is amended by inserting after the items relating to subtitle  
18 B of title XXII the following:

“Subtitle C—Cyber Incident Reporting

“Sec. 2230. Definitions.

“Sec. 2231. Cyber Incident Review Office.

“Sec. 2232. Required reporting of certain cyber incidents.

“Sec. 2233. Voluntary reporting of other cyber incidents.

“Sec. 2234. Noncompliance with required reporting.

“Sec. 2235. Information shared with or provided to the Federal Government.”.

19 **SEC. 4. FEDERAL SHARING OF INCIDENT REPORTS.**

20 (a) CYBER INCIDENT REPORTING SHARING.—Not-  
21 withstanding any other provision of law or regulation, any  
22 Federal agency that receives a report from an entity of

1 a cyber attack, including a ransomware attack, shall pro-  
2 vide all such information to the Director of the Cybersecu-  
3 rity Infrastructure Security Agency not later than 24  
4 hours after receiving the report, unless a shorter period  
5 is required by an agreement made between the Cyber Inci-  
6 dent Review Office established under section 2231 of the  
7 Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by section 3(b)  
8 of this Act, and another Federal entity.

9 (b) CREATION OF COUNCIL.—Section 1752(c)(1) of  
10 the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Au-  
11 thorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (6 U.S.C.  
12 1500(c)(1)) is amended—

13 (1) in subparagraph (G), by striking “and” at  
14 the end;

15 (2) by redesignating subparagraph (H) as sub-  
16 paragraph (I); and

17 (3) by inserting after subparagraph (G) the fol-  
18 lowing:

19 “(H) lead an intergovernmental Cyber In-  
20 cident Reporting Council, in coordination with  
21 the Director of the Office of Management and  
22 Budget and the Director of the Cybersecurity  
23 and Infrastructure Security Agency and in con-  
24 sultation with Sector Risk Management Agen-  
25 cies (as defined in section 2201 of the Home-

1 land Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 651)) and  
2 other appropriate Federal agencies, to coordi-  
3 nate, deconflict, and harmonize Federal incident  
4 reporting requirements, including those issued  
5 through regulations, for covered entities (as de-  
6 fined in section 2230 of such Act) and entities  
7 that make a ransom payment (as defined in  
8 such section 2201 (6 U.S.C. 651)); and”.

9 (c) HARMONIZING REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—  
10 The National Cyber Director shall, in consultation with  
11 the Director, the Cyber Incident Reporting Council de-  
12 scribed in section 1752(c)(1)(H) of the William M. (Mac)  
13 Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal  
14 Year 2021 (6 U.S.C. 1500(c)(1)(H)), and the Director of  
15 the Office of Management and Budget, to the maximum  
16 extent practicable—

17 (1) review existing regulatory requirements, in-  
18 cluding the information required in such reports, to  
19 report cyber incidents and ensure that any such re-  
20 porting requirements and procedures avoid con-  
21 flicting, duplicative, or burdensome requirements;  
22 and

23 (2) coordinate with the Director and regulatory  
24 authorities that receive reports relating to cyber inci-  
25 dents to identify opportunities to streamline report-

1 ing processes, and where feasible, facilitate inter-  
2 agency agreements between such authorities to per-  
3 mit the sharing of such reports, consistent with ap-  
4 plicable law and policy, without impacting the ability  
5 of such agencies to gain timely situational awareness  
6 of a covered cyber incident or ransom payment.

7 **SEC. 5. RANSOMWARE VULNERABILITY WARNING PILOT**  
8 **PROGRAM.**

9 (a) PROGRAM.—Not less than 90 days after the date  
10 of enactment of this Act, the Director shall establish a  
11 ransomware vulnerability warning program to leverage ex-  
12 isting authorities and technology to specifically develop  
13 processes and procedures, and to dedicate resources, to  
14 identifying information systems that contain security  
15 vulnerabilities associated with common ransomware at-  
16 tacks, and to notify the owners of those vulnerable systems  
17 of their security vulnerability.

18 (b) IDENTIFICATION OF VULNERABLE SYSTEMS.—

19 The pilot program established under subsection (a) shall—

20 (1) identify the most common security  
21 vulnerabilities utilized in ransomware attacks and  
22 mitigation techniques; and

23 (2) utilize existing authorities to identify Fed-  
24 eral and other relevant information systems that

1 contain the security vulnerabilities identified in para-  
2 graph (1).

3 (c) ENTITY NOTIFICATION.—

4 (1) IDENTIFICATION.—If the Director is able to  
5 identify the entity at risk that owns or operates a  
6 vulnerable information system identified in sub-  
7 section (b), the Director may notify the owner of the  
8 information system.

9 (2) NO IDENTIFICATION.—if the Director is not  
10 able to identify the entity at risk that owns or oper-  
11 ates a vulnerable information system identified in  
12 subsection (b), the Director may utilize the subpoena  
13 authority pursuant to section 2209 of the Homeland  
14 Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 659) to identify and  
15 notify the entity at risk pursuant to the procedures  
16 within that section.

17 (3) REQUIRED INFORMATION.—A notification  
18 made under paragraph (1) shall include information  
19 on the identified security vulnerability and mitiga-  
20 tion techniques.

21 (d) PRIORITIZATION OF NOTIFICATIONS.—To the ex-  
22 tent practical, the Director shall prioritize covered entities  
23 for identification and notification activities under the pilot  
24 program established under this section.

1 (e) LIMITATION ON PROCEDURES.—No procedure,  
2 notification, or other authorities utilized in the execution  
3 of the pilot program established under subsection (a) shall  
4 require an owner or operator of a vulnerable information  
5 system to take any action as a result of a notice of a secu-  
6 rity vulnerability made pursuant to subsection (c).

7 (f) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-  
8 tion shall be construed to provide additional authorities  
9 to the Director to identify vulnerabilities or vulnerable sys-  
10 tems.

11 **SEC. 6. RANSOMWARE THREAT MITIGATION ACTIVITIES.**

12 (a) JOINT RANSOMWARE TASK FORCE.—

13 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days  
14 after the date of enactment of this section, the Na-  
15 tional Cyber Director shall establish and chair the  
16 Joint Ransomware Task Force to coordinate an on-  
17 going, nationwide campaign against ransomware at-  
18 tacks, and identify and pursue opportunities for  
19 international cooperation.

20 (2) COMPOSITION.—The Joint Ransomware  
21 Task Force shall consist of participants from Fed-  
22 eral agencies, as determined appropriate by the Na-  
23 tional Cyber Director in consultation with the Sec-  
24 retary of Homeland Security.

1           (3)           RESPONSIBILITIES.—The           Joint  
2           Ransomware Task Force, utilizing only existing au-  
3           thorities of each participating agency, shall coordi-  
4           nate across the Federal government the following ac-  
5           tivities:

6                   (A) Prioritization of intelligence-driven op-  
7                   erations to disrupt specific ransomware actors.

8                   (B) Consult with relevant private sector,  
9                   State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments  
10                  and international stakeholders to identify needs  
11                  and establish mechanisms for providing input  
12                  into the Task Force.

13                  (C) Identifying, in consultation with rel-  
14                  evant entities, a list of highest threat  
15                  ransomware entities updated on an ongoing  
16                  basis, in order to facilitate—

17                   (i) prioritization for Federal action by  
18                   appropriate Federal agencies; and

19                   (ii) identify metrics for success of said  
20                   actions.

21                  (D) Disrupting ransomware criminal ac-  
22                  tors, associated infrastructure, and their fi-  
23                  nances.

24                  (E) Facilitating coordination and collabo-  
25                  ration between Federal entities and relevant en-



1           tities, including the private sector, to improve  
2           Federal actions against ransomware threats.

3           (F) Collection, sharing, and analysis of  
4           ransomware trends to inform Federal actions.

5           (G) Creation of after-action reports and  
6           other lessons learned from Federal actions that  
7           identify successes and failures to improve sub-  
8           sequent actions.

9           (H) Any other activities determined appro-  
10          priate by the task force to mitigate the threat  
11          of ransomware attacks against Federal and  
12          non-Federal entities.

13          (b) CLARIFYING PRIVATE-SECTOR LAWFUL DEFEN-  
14          SIVE MEASURES.—Not later than 180 days after the date  
15          of enactment of this Act, the National Cyber Director, in  
16          coordination with the Secretary of Homeland Security and  
17          the Attorney General, shall submit to the Committee on  
18          Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the  
19          Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Com-  
20          mittee on Homeland Security, the Committee on the Judi-  
21          ciary, and the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the  
22          House of Representatives a report that describes defensive  
23          measures that private-sector actors can take when coun-  
24          tering ransomware attacks and what laws need to be clari-  
25          fied to enable that action.

1 (c) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this sec-  
2 tion shall be construed as providing any additional author-  
3 ity to any Federal agency.

4 **SEC. 7. CONGRESSIONAL REPORTING.**

5 (a) REPORT ON STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT.—Not  
6 later than 30 days after the date on which the Director  
7 issues the interim final rule under section 2232(b)(1) of  
8 the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by section  
9 3(b) of this Act, the Director shall submit to the Com-  
10 mittee on Homeland Security and Government Affairs of  
11 the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of  
12 the House of Representatives a report that describes how  
13 the Director engaged stakeholders in the development of  
14 the interim final rule.

15 (b) REPORT ON OPPORTUNITIES TO STRENGTHEN  
16 SECURITY RESEARCH.—Not later than 1 year after the  
17 date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall submit  
18 to the Committee on Homeland Security and Government  
19 Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland  
20 Security of the House of Representatives a report describ-  
21 ing how the Cyber Incident Review Office has carried out  
22 activities under section 2231(b)(9) of the Homeland Secu-  
23 rity Act of 2002, as added by section 3(b) of this Act,  
24 by proactively identifying opportunities to use cyber inci-

1 dent data to inform and enabling cybersecurity research  
2 within the academic and private sector.

3 (c) REPORT ON RANSOMWARE VULNERABILITY  
4 WARNING PILOT PROGRAM.—Not later than 1 year after  
5 the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter  
6 for the duration of the pilot program established under  
7 section 5, the Director shall submit to the Committee on  
8 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Sen-  
9 ate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the  
10 House of Representatives a report, which may include a  
11 classified annex, on the effectiveness of the pilot program,  
12 which shall include a discussion of the following:

13 (1) The effectiveness of the notifications under  
14 section 5(c) to mitigate security vulnerabilities and  
15 the threat of ransomware.

16 (2) The identification of most common  
17 vulnerabilities utilized in ransomware.

18 (3) The number of notifications issued during  
19 the preceding year.

20 (4) To the extent practicable, the number of  
21 vulnerable devices or systems mitigated under this  
22 pilot by the Agency during the preceding year.

23 (d) REPORT ON HARMONIZATION OF REPORTING  
24 REGULATIONS.—Not later than 180 days after the date  
25 on which the National Cyber Director convenes the Coun-

1 cil described in section 1752(c)(1)(H) of the William M.  
2 (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for  
3 Fiscal Year 2021 (6 U.S.C. 1500(c)(1)(H)), the National  
4 Cyber Director shall submit to the appropriate congress-  
5 sional committees a report that includes—

6 (1) a list of duplicative Federal cyber incident  
7 reporting requirements on covered entities and enti-  
8 ties that make a ransom payment;

9 (2) any actions the National Cyber Director in-  
10 tends to take to harmonize the duplicative reporting  
11 requirements; and

12 (3) any proposed legislative changes necessary  
13 to address the duplicative reporting.

14 (e) GAO REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the  
15 date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General  
16 of the United States shall submit to the Committee on  
17 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Sen-  
18 ate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the  
19 House of Representatives a report on the implementation  
20 of this Act and the amendments made by this Act.