

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

S. _____

To authorize cyber hunt and incident response teams at the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

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

A BILL

To authorize cyber hunt and incident response teams at 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 “DHS Cyber Hunt and
5 Incident Response Teams Act of 2019”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY CYBER**
7 **HUNT AND INCIDENT RESPONSE TEAMS.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 2209 of the Homeland
9 Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 659) is amended—

1 (1) in subsection (d)(1)(B)(iv), by inserting “,
2 including cybersecurity specialists” after “entities”;

3 (2) by redesignating subsections (f) through
4 (m) as subsections (g) through (n), respectively;

5 (3) by inserting after subsection (e) the fol-
6 lowing:

7 “(f) CYBER HUNT AND INCIDENT RESPONSE
8 TEAMS.—

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Center shall maintain
10 cyber hunt and incident response teams for the pur-
11 pose of leading Federal asset response activities and
12 providing timely technical assistance to Federal and
13 non-Federal entities, including across all critical in-
14 frastructure sectors, regarding actual or potential
15 security incidents, as appropriate and upon request,
16 including—

17 “(A) assistance to asset owners and opera-
18 tors in restoring services following a cyber inci-
19 dent;

20 “(B) identification and analysis of cyberse-
21 curity risk and unauthorized cyber activity;

22 “(C) mitigation strategies to prevent,
23 deter, and protect against cybersecurity risks;

24 “(D) recommendations to asset owners and
25 operators for improving overall network and

1 control systems security to lower cybersecurity
2 risks, and other recommendations, as appro-
3 priate; and

4 “(E) such other capabilities as the Sec-
5 retary determines appropriate.

6 “(2) ASSOCIATED METRICS.—The Center shall
7 continually assess and evaluate the cyber hunt and
8 incident response teams and the operations of those
9 cyber hunt and incident response teams using robust
10 metrics.

11 “(3) REPORT.—At the conclusion of each of the
12 first 4 fiscal years after the date of enactment of the
13 DHS Cyber Hunt and Incident Response Teams Act
14 of 2019, the Center shall submit to the Committee
15 on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of
16 the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Secu-
17 rity of the House of Representatives a report that
18 includes—

19 “(A) information relating to the metrics
20 used for evaluation and assessment of the cyber
21 hunt and incident response teams and oper-
22 ations under paragraph (2), including the re-
23 sources and staffing of those cyber hunt and in-
24 cident response teams; and

1 “(B) for the period covered by the re-
2 port—

3 “(i) the total number of incident re-
4 sponse requests received;

5 “(ii) the number of incident response
6 tickets opened; and

7 “(iii) a statement of—

8 “(I) all interagency staffing of
9 cyber hunt and incident response
10 teams; and

11 “(II) the interagency collabora-
12 tions established to support cyber
13 hunt and incident response teams.

14 “(4) CYBERSECURITY SPECIALISTS.—After no-
15 tice to, and with the approval of, the entity request-
16 ing action by or technical assistance from the Cen-
17 ter, the Secretary may include cybersecurity special-
18 ists from the private sector on a cyber hunt and in-
19 cident response team.”; and

20 (4) in subsection (g), as so redesignated—

21 (A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “, or
22 any team or activity of the Center,” after “Cen-
23 ter”; and

1 (B) in paragraph (2), by inserting “, or
2 any team or activity of the Center,” after “Cen-
3 ter”.

4 (b) NO ADDITIONAL FUNDS AUTHORIZED.—No ad-
5 ditional funds are authorized to be appropriated to carry
6 out the requirements of this Act and the amendments
7 made by this Act. Such requirements shall be carried out
8 using amounts otherwise authorized to be appropriated.