

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4055

AN ACT

To establish a cybersecurity literacy campaign, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “American Cybersecu-
3 rity Literacy Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

5 It is the sense of the Congress that the United States
6 has a national security and economic interest in promoting
7 cybersecurity literacy amongst the general public.

8 **SEC. 3. ESTABLISHMENT OF CYBERSECURITY LITERACY**
9 **CAMPAIGN.**

10 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—The Assistant Secretary shall de-
11 velop and conduct a cybersecurity literacy campaign
12 (which shall be available in multiple languages and for-
13 mats, if practicable) to increase the knowledge and aware-
14 ness of the American people of best practices to reduce
15 cybersecurity risks.

16 (b) **CAMPAIGN.**—To reduce cybersecurity risks, the
17 Assistant Secretary shall—

18 (1) educate the American people on how to pre-
19 vent and mitigate cyberattacks and cybersecurity
20 risks, including by—

21 (A) instructing the American people on
22 how to identify—

23 (i) phishing emails and messages; and

24 (ii) secure websites;

1 (B) instructing the American people about
2 the benefits of changing default passwords on
3 hardware and software technology;

4 (C) encouraging the use of cybersecurity
5 tools, including—

6 (i) multi-factor authentication;

7 (ii) complex passwords;

8 (iii) anti-virus software;

9 (iv) patching and updating software
10 and applications; and

11 (v) virtual private networks;

12 (D) identifying the devices that could pose
13 possible cybersecurity risks, including—

14 (i) personal computers;

15 (ii) smartphones;

16 (iii) tablets;

17 (iv) Wi-Fi routers;

18 (v) smart home appliances;

19 (vi) webcams;

20 (vii) internet-connected monitors; and

21 (viii) any other device that can be con-
22 nected to the internet, including mobile de-
23 vices other than smartphones and tablets;

24 (E) encouraging Americans to—

1 (i) regularly review mobile application
2 permissions;

3 (ii) decline privilege requests from mo-
4 bile applications that are unnecessary;

5 (iii) download applications only from
6 trusted vendors or sources; and

7 (iv) consider a product’s life cycle and
8 the developer or manufacturer’s commit-
9 ment to providing security updates during
10 a connected device’s expected period of use;
11 and

12 (F) identifying the potential cybersecurity
13 risks of using publicly available Wi-Fi networks
14 and the methods a user may utilize to limit
15 such risks; and

16 (2) encourage the American people to use re-
17 sources to help mitigate the cybersecurity risks iden-
18 tified in this subsection.

19 (c) ASSISTANT SECRETARY DEFINED.—In this sec-
20 tion, the term “Assistant Secretary” means the Assistant

1 Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Informa-
2 tion.

Passed the House of Representatives December 1,
2021.

Attest:

Clerk.

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