

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1717

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JULY 16, 2025

Received; read twice and referred to the Committee on Commerce, Science,
and Transportation

AN ACT

To direct the Federal Communications Commission to establish a council to make recommendations on ways to increase the security, reliability, and interoperability of communications networks, 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 “Communications Secu-
3 rity Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. COUNCIL ON COMMUNICATIONS SECURITY, RELI-**
5 **ABILITY, AND INTEROPERABILITY.**

6 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—Not later than 90 days after
7 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commission
8 shall—

9 (1) establish a council to advise the Commission
10 on issues including the security, reliability, and
11 interoperability of communications networks; or

12 (2) designate for purposes of this section an ad-
13 visory committee of the Commission that is oper-
14 ating on the date of the enactment of this Act under
15 a charter for the purpose of addressing the issues
16 described in paragraph (1) and, if the membership
17 of such committee does not comply with subsection
18 (b), modify such membership to comply with such
19 subsection.

20 (b) MEMBERSHIP.—

21 (1) APPOINTMENT.—The members of the coun-
22 cil shall be appointed by the Chair.

23 (2) COMPOSITION.—To the extent practicable,
24 the membership of the council shall be composed of
25 the following:

1 (A) Representatives of companies in the
2 communications industry, except companies
3 that are determined by the Chair to be not
4 trusted.

5 (B) Representatives of public interest orga-
6 nizations or academic institutions, except public
7 interest organizations or academic institutions
8 that are determined by the Chair to be not
9 trusted.

10 (C) Representatives of the Federal Govern-
11 ment, State governments, local governments, or
12 Tribal Governments, with at least one member
13 representing each such type of government.

14 (3) KNOWLEDGE AND EXPERIENCE.—Each
15 member of the council shall have knowledge and ex-
16 perience relevant to the purpose and goals of the
17 council.

18 (4) TERMS.—

19 (A) IN GENERAL.—Each member of the
20 council shall be appointed for a term of 2 years,
21 except as provided in subparagraph (B).

22 (B) VACANCIES.—Any member appointed
23 to fill a vacancy occurring before the expiration
24 of the term for which the member's predecessor
25 was appointed shall be appointed only for the

1 remainder of that term. A member may serve
2 after the expiration of that member's term until
3 a successor has taken office.

4 (c) REPORTS.—

5 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 2 years after
6 the date on which the council is established or des-
7 ignated (as the case may be) under subsection (a),
8 and every 2 years thereafter, the council shall sub-
9 mit to the Chair each report adopted by the council
10 during the preceding 2-year period, and any report
11 adopted by any working group of the council during
12 such period, including any such report of the council
13 or a working group containing recommendations on
14 ways to increase the security, reliability, and inter-
15 operability of communications networks, and on
16 other relevant issues as appropriate.

17 (2) AVAILABILITY ON COMMISSION WEBSITE.—

18 The Commission shall make each report submitted
19 under paragraph (1) publicly available on the
20 website of the Commission.

21 (d) DURATION.—Section 1013(a)(2) of title 5,
22 United States Code (relating to the termination of advi-
23 sory committees) shall not apply to the council.

24 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1 (1) CHAIR.—The term “Chair” means the
2 Chair of the Commission.

3 (2) COMMISSION.—The term “Commission”
4 means the Federal Communications Commission.

5 (3) COUNCIL.—The term “council” means the
6 council established under subsection (a)(1) or the
7 advisory committee designated under subsection
8 (a)(2), as the case may be.

9 (4) NOT TRUSTED.—

10 (A) IN GENERAL.—The term “not trusted”
11 means, with respect to an entity, that—

12 (i) the Chair has made a public deter-
13 mination that such entity is owned by, con-
14 trolled by, or subject to the influence of a
15 foreign adversary; or

16 (ii) the Chair otherwise determines
17 that such entity poses a threat to the na-
18 tional security of the United States.

19 (B) CRITERIA FOR DETERMINATION.—In
20 making a determination under subparagraph
21 (A)(ii), the Chair shall use the criteria de-
22 scribed in paragraphs (1) through (4) of section
23 2(e) of the Secure and Trusted Communica-
24 tions Networks Act of 2019 (47 U.S.C.
25 1601(c)), as appropriate.

1 (5) STATE.—The term “State” has the mean-
2 ing given such term in section 3 of the Communica-
3 tions Act of 1934 (47 U.S.C. 153).

Passed the House of Representatives July 15, 2025.

Attest: KEVIN F. MCCUMBER,
Clerk.