

Calendar No. _____

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION**S. 2305****[Report No. 117-_____]**

To enhance cybersecurity education.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

JUNE 24, 2021

Mr. OSSOFF (for himself and Mr. TILLIS) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

_____ (legislative day, _____), _____

Reported by Mr. PETERS, with an amendment

[Strike out all after the enacting clause and insert the part printed in italic]

A BILL

To enhance cybersecurity education.

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 “Cybersecurity Oppor-
5 tunity Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. DR. DAVID SATCHER CYBERSECURITY EDUCATION**
2 **GRANT PROGRAM.**

3 (a) AUTHORIZATION OF GRANTS.—The Secretary of
4 Homeland Security shall—

5 (1) award grants to assist public institutions of
6 higher education that have an enrollment of needy
7 students (as defined in section 312(d) of the Higher
8 Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1058(d))), His-
9 torically Black Colleges and Universities, and minor-
10 ity-serving institutions, to establish or expand cyber-
11 security programs, to build and upgrade institutional
12 capacity to better support new or existing cybersecu-
13 rity programs, including cybersecurity partnerships
14 with public and private entities, and to support such
15 institutions on the path to producing qualified en-
16 trants in the cybersecurity workforce or becoming a
17 National Center of Academic Excellence in Cyberse-
18 curity through the program carried out by the Na-
19 tional Security Agency and the Department of
20 Homeland Security; and

21 (2) award grants for a 5-year pilot period to
22 build capacity to public institutions of higher edu-
23 cation that have an enrollment of needy students (as
24 defined in section 312(d) of the Higher Education
25 Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1058(d))), Historically
26 Black Colleges and Universities, and minority-serv-

1 ing institutions, to expand cybersecurity education
2 opportunities, cybersecurity technology and pro-
3 grams, cybersecurity research, and cybersecurity
4 partnerships with public and private entities.

5 (b) APPLICATIONS.—An eligible institution seeking a
6 grant under subsection (a) shall submit an application to
7 the Secretary of Homeland Security at such time, in such
8 manner, and containing such information as the Secretary
9 may reasonably require, including a statement of how the
10 institution will use the funds awarded through the grant
11 to expand cybersecurity education opportunities at the eli-
12 gible institution.

13 (c) ACTIVITIES.—An eligible institution that receives
14 a grant under this section may use the funds awarded
15 through such grant for increasing research, education,
16 technical, partnership, and innovation capacity, including
17 for—

18 (1) building and upgrading institutional capac-
19 ity to better support new or existing cybersecurity
20 programs, including cybersecurity partnerships with
21 public and private entities; and

22 (2) building and upgrading institutional capac-
23 ity to provide hands-on research and training experi-
24 ences for undergraduate and graduate students.

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 *This Act may be cited as the “Cybersecurity Oppor-*
3 *tunity Act”.*

4 **SEC. 2. DR. DAVID SATCHER CYBERSECURITY EDUCATION**
5 **GRANT PROGRAM.**

6 (a) *DEFINITIONS.—In this Act:*

7 (1) *ENROLLMENT OF NEEDY STUDENTS.—The*
8 *term “enrollment of needy students” has the meaning*
9 *given the term in section 312(d) of the Higher Edu-*
10 *cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1058(d)).*

11 (2) *HISTORICALLY BLACK COLLEGE OR UNIVER-*
12 *SITY.—The term “historically Black college or univer-*
13 *sity” has the meaning given the term “part B institu-*
14 *tion” as defined in section 322 of the Higher Edu-*
15 *cation Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1061).*

16 (3) *INSTITUTION OF HIGHER EDUCATION.—The*
17 *term “institution of higher education” has the mean-*
18 *ing given the term in section 101(a) of the Higher*
19 *Education Act of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1001(a)).*

20 (4) *MINORITY-SERVING INSTITUTION.—The term*
21 *“minority-serving institution” means an institution*
22 *listed in section 371(a) of the Higher Education Act*
23 *of 1965 (20 U.S.C. 1067q(a)).*

24 (5) *SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means*
25 *the Secretary of Homeland Security.*

26 (b) *AUTHORIZATION OF GRANTS.—*

1 (1) *IN GENERAL.*—*The Secretary shall—*

2 (A) *award grants to assist institutions of*
3 *higher education that have an enrollment of*
4 *needy students, historically Black colleges and*
5 *universities, and minority-serving institutions,*
6 *to establish or expand cybersecurity programs, to*
7 *build and upgrade institutional capacity to bet-*
8 *ter support new or existing cybersecurity pro-*
9 *grams, including cybersecurity partnerships with*
10 *public and private entities, and to support such*
11 *institutions on the path to producing qualified*
12 *entrants in the cybersecurity workforce or becom-*
13 *ing a National Center of Academic Excellence in*
14 *Cybersecurity; and*

15 (B) *award grants to build capacity at insti-*
16 *tutions of higher education that have an enroll-*
17 *ment of needy students, historically Black col-*
18 *leges and universities, and minority-serving in-*
19 *stitutions, to expand cybersecurity education op-*
20 *portunities, cybersecurity technology and pro-*
21 *grams, cybersecurity research, and cybersecurity*
22 *partnerships with public and private entities.*

23 (2) *RESERVATION.*—*The Secretary shall award*
24 *not less than 50 percent of the amount available for*

1 *grants under this Act to historically Black colleges*
2 *and universities and minority-serving institutions.*

3 (3) *COORDINATION.*—*The Secretary shall carry*
4 *out this section in coordination with the National*
5 *Initiative for Cybersecurity Education at the Na-*
6 *tional Institute of Standards and Technology.*

7 (4) *SUNSET.*—*The Secretary’s authority to*
8 *award grants under paragraph (1) shall terminate on*
9 *the date that is 5 years after the date the Secretary*
10 *first awards a grant under paragraph (1).*

11 (5) *AMOUNTS TO REMAIN AVAILABLE.*—*Notwith-*
12 *standing section 1552 of title 31, United States Code,*
13 *or any other provision of law, funds available to the*
14 *Secretary for obligation for a grant under this section*
15 *shall remain available for expenditure for 100 days*
16 *after the last day of the performance period of such*
17 *grant.*

18 (c) *APPLICATIONS.*—*An eligible institution seeking a*
19 *grant under subsection (a) shall submit an application to*
20 *the Secretary at such time, in such manner, and containing*
21 *such information as the Secretary may reasonably require,*
22 *including a statement of how the institution will use the*
23 *funds awarded through the grant to expand cybersecurity*
24 *education opportunities at the eligible institution.*

1 (d) *ACTIVITIES.*—An eligible institution that receives
2 a grant under this section may use the funds awarded
3 through such grant for increasing research, education, tech-
4 nical, partnership, and innovation capacity, including
5 for—

6 (1) *building and upgrading institutional capac-*
7 *ity to better support new or existing cybersecurity*
8 *programs, including cybersecurity partnerships with*
9 *public and private entities;*

10 (2) *building and upgrading institutional capac-*
11 *ity to provide hands-on research and training experi-*
12 *ences for undergraduate and graduate students; and*

13 (3) *outreach and recruitment to ensure students*
14 *are aware of such new or existing cybersecurity pro-*
15 *grams, including cybersecurity partnerships with*
16 *public and private entities.*

17 (e) *REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.*—Not later than—

18 (1) *1 year after the date of enactment of this Act,*
19 *and annually thereafter until the Secretary submits*
20 *the report under paragraph (2), the Secretary shall*
21 *prepare and submit to Congress a report on the status*
22 *and progress of implementation of the grant program*
23 *under this Act, including on the number and nature*
24 *of institutions participating, the number and nature*
25 *of students served by institutions receiving grants, the*

1 *level of funding provided to grant recipients, the types*
2 *of activities being funded by the grants program, and*
3 *plans for future implementation and development;*
4 *and*

5 *(2) 5 years after the date of enactment of this*
6 *Act, the Secretary shall prepare and submit to Con-*
7 *gress a report on the status of cybersecurity education*
8 *programming and capacity-building at institutions*
9 *receiving grants under this Act, including changes in*
10 *the scale and scope of these programs, associated fa-*
11 *cilities, or in accreditation status, and on the edu-*
12 *cational and employment outcomes of students par-*
13 *ticipating in cybersecurity programs that have re-*
14 *ceived support under this Act.*

15 *(f) PERFORMANCE METRICS.—The Secretary of Home-*
16 *land Security shall establish performance metrics for grants*
17 *awarded under this section.*