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Statement of Research Subcommittee Chairman Larry Bucshon (R-Ind.) Hearing on Cybersecurity Research and Development: Challenges and Solutions

Chairman Bucshon: "According to a recent report published by the Government Accountability Office, there were nearly 50,000 cybersecurity incidents reported by federal agencies in 2012. Considering that number was 5,500 in 2006, there is no doubt that addressing cybersecurity needs is critical to global economic competitiveness and national security interests of our nation.

In December of 2012, the Center for Applied Cybersecurity Research at Indiana University held a "Roundtable on Cyber Threats, Objectives, and Responses." This issue impacts everyone: from children using the internet in their homes to government and industry officials trying to ensure our domestic infrastructure is protected from cyber terrorists.

During the Research Subcommittee hearing on February 14 on Networking and Information Technology Research and Development (NITRD), witnesses testified about the cybersecurity threats our nation faces and emphasized that cooperation is required for stakeholders to research and design ways in which to build and maintain safer computer network infrastructures. The NITRD program, which was the primary subject of that hearing, is the coordinating body which the McCaul-Lipinski Cybersecurity Enhancement Act appropriately utilizes to establish a strategic plan for specific cyber security research.

I am encouraged that the legislation we are discussing today enhances the education and development of information technology professionals, including those who work in the areas of computer systems, computer security, and cybersecurity.

I look forward to hearing from our witnesses about their experiences and their recommendations on addressing America's cybersecurity challenges."

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