

COMMITTEE ON  
**SCIENCE, SPACE, AND  
TECHNOLOGY**  
CHAIRMAN LAMAR SMITH



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**Statement of Research and Technology Subcommittee Chairman Larry Bucshon (R-Ind.)  
Hearing on Can Technology Protect Americans from International Cybercriminals?**

**Chairman Bucshon:** I would like to welcome everyone to today's hearing on the role of technology in protecting Americans from cybercriminals.

As Dr. Broun stated, many Americans have experienced security breaches in the past few years. Universities, small grocery stores and retailers in Indiana have all experienced security breaches recently. Along with the national retailer security breaches, we have heard about recently in the news, these smaller instances show how all individuals and consumers are threatened by this growing problem.

According to a poll conducted by Defense News, leaders in national security policy, the military, congressional staff, and the defense industry believe cybersecurity is the top threat to our national security.

While there is no question the federal government plays a role in preventing these security breaches, we must ensure we are using our resources as efficiently and effectively as possible.

The Science, Space and Technology Committee was responsible for two pieces of relevant legislation that passed the House last year.

H.R. 756, the Cybersecurity Enhancement Act, strengthens coordination and provides for strategic planning of cybersecurity research and development between government agencies. While the federal effort to prevent cyber attacks from happening is commendable, we must ensure that these well-intentioned programs are not duplicative or inefficient.

Another piece of legislation that the House passed last year is H.R. 967, the Advancing America's Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Act, which also provides for coordination of the federal investment in research and development of unclassified networking, computing and cybersecurity technology.

These two Science Committee bills both passed the House overwhelmingly with bipartisan support but have been stalled in the Senate, which has not yet indicated if they will act on these vital bills or not. It is my hope that we will see the Senate move these bills forward soon with the active help and support of the cybersecurity community and its stakeholders.

I want to thank the witnesses for participating in today's hearing and look forward to their testimony on private sector initiatives and how we can help leverage these efforts.

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