



**H.Res. 716– Expressing the sense of Congress with respect to raising awareness and enhancing the state of computer security in the United States, and supporting the goals and ideals of National Cyber Security Awareness Month**

**FLOOR SITUATION**

H.Res. 716 is being considered on the floor under suspension of the rules and will require a two-thirds majority vote for passage. This legislation was introduced by Representative James Langevin (D-RI) on October 9, 2007. The bill was referred to the Committee on Science and Technology, but was never considered.

H.Res. 716 is expected to be considered by the House of Representatives on October 15, 2007.

**SUMMARY**

H.Res. 716 supports the goals and ideals of National Cyber Security Awareness Month.

H.Res. 716 also shows Congress' intent to work with Federal agencies, national organizations, businesses, and educational institutions to encourage the voluntary development and use of existing and future computer security voluntary consensus standards, practices, and technologies in order to enhance the state of computer security in the United States.

**BACKGROUND**

Cyber security is a critical part of the Nation's overall homeland security. The Nation's critical infrastructures rely on the secure and reliable operation of information networks to support the Nation's financial services, energy, telecommunications, transportation, health care, and emergency response systems.

The growth and popularity of social networking websites has attracted millions of teenagers. This makes it even more important to teach teenage users how to avoid potential threats like cyber bullies, predators, and identity thieves they may encounter while using such services. Approximately 87 percent of all youth use the Internet.

As the number of children who connect to the Internet at school continues to rise, it becomes more important to teach children of all ages to become good cyber-citizens

through safe, secure, and ethical online behaviors and practices. Such instruction is essential to protect their computer systems and potentially their physical safety.

Small businesses, which represent more than 99 percent of all United States employers and employ more than 50 percent of the private workforce, increasingly rely on the Internet to manage their businesses, expand their customer reach, and enhance their connection with their supply chain.

As the Internet continues to grow, it is important that Congress continue to find ways to keep it secure and safe.

**STAFF CONTACT**

For questions or further information contact Luke Hatzis at (202) 226-2302.