To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish the Cyber Incident Review Office in the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

SEPTEMBER 28, 2021

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

A BILL

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to establish the Cyber Incident Review Office in the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency of the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Cyber Incident Reporting Act of 2021”.

SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.

In this Act:
(1) COVERED CYBER INCIDENT; COVERED ENTITY; CYBER INCIDENT.—The terms “covered cyber incident”, “covered entity”, and “cyber incident” have the meanings given those terms in section 2230 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by section 3(b) of this Act.

(2) CYBER ATTACK; RANSOM PAYMENT; RANSOMWARE ATTACK.—The terms “cyber attack”, “ransom payment”, and “ransomware attack” have the meanings given those terms in section 2201 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 651), as amended by section 3(a) of this Act.

(3) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency.

(4) INFORMATION SYSTEM; SECURITY VULNERABILITY.—The terms “information system” and “security vulnerability” have the meanings given those terms in section 102 of the Cybersecurity Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1501).

SEC. 3. CYBER INCIDENT REPORTING.

(a) DEFINITIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Section 2201 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 651) is amended—
(A) by redesignating paragraphs (1), (2), (3), (4), (5), and (6) as paragraphs (2), (4), (5), (7), (10), and (11), respectively;

(B) by inserting before paragraph (2), as so redesignated, the following:

“(1) CLOUD SERVICE PROVIDER.—The term ‘cloud service provider’ means an entity offering products or services related to cloud computing, as defined by the National Institutes of Standards and Technology in NIST Special Publication 800–145 and any amendatory or superseding document relating thereto.”;

(C) by inserting after paragraph (2), as so redesignated, the following:

“(3) CYBER ATTACK.—The term ‘cyber attack’ means the use of unauthorized or malicious code on an information system, or the use of another digital mechanism such as a denial of service attack, to interrupt or disrupt the operations of an information system or compromise the confidentiality, availability, or integrity of electronic data stored on, processed by, or transiting an information system.”;

(D) by inserting after paragraph (5), as so redesignated, the following:
“(6) MANAGED SERVICE PROVIDER.—The term ‘managed service provider’ means an entity that delivers services, such as network, application, infrastructure, or security services, via ongoing and regular support and active administration on the premises of a customer, in the data center of the entity (such as hosting), or in a third-party data center.”;

(E) by inserting after paragraph (7), as so redesignated, the following:

“(8) RANSOM PAYMENT.—The term ‘ransom payment’ means the transmission of any money or other property or asset, including virtual currency, or any portion thereof, which has at any time been delivered as ransom in connection with a ransomware attack.

“(9) RANSOMWARE ATTACK.—The term ‘ransomware attack’—

“(A) means a cyber attack that includes the threat of use of unauthorized or malicious code on an information system, or the threat of use of another digital mechanism such as a denial of service attack, to interrupt or disrupt the operations of an information system or compromise the confidentiality, availability, or integrity of electronic data stored on, processed
by, or transiting an information system to ex-
tort a demand for a ransom payment; and

“(B) does not include any such event
where the demand for payment is made by a
Federal Government entity, good-faith security
research, or in response to an invitation by the
owner or operator of the information system for
third parties to identify vulnerabilities in the in-
formation system.”; and

(F) by adding at the end the following:

“(13) SUPPLY CHAIN COMPROMISE.—The term
‘supply chain compromise’ means a cyber attack that
allows an adversary to utilize implants or other
vulnerabilities inserted prior to installation in order
to infiltrate data, or manipulate information tech-
ology hardware, software, operating systems, pe-
ripherals (such as information technology products),
or services at any point during the life cycle.

“(14) VIRTUAL CURRENCY.—The term ‘virtual
currency’ means the digital representation of value
that functions as a medium of exchange, a unit of
account, or a store of value.

“(15) VIRTUAL CURRENCY ADDRESS.—The
term ‘virtual currency address’ means a unique pub-
lic cryptographic key identifying the location to
which a virtual currency payment can be made.”.

(2) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section
9002(A)(7) of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry Na-
tional Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year
2021 (6 U.S.C. 652a(a)(7)) is amended to read as
follows:

“(7) SECTOR RISK MANAGEMENT AGENCY.—
The term ‘Sector Risk Management Agency’ has the
meaning given the term in section 2201 of the

(b) CYBER INCIDENT REPORTING.—Title XXII of
is amended by adding at the end the following:

“Subtitle C—Cyber Incident Reporting

“SEC. 2230. DEFINITIONS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection
(b), the definitions under section 2201 shall apply to this
subtitle.

“(b) ADDITIONAL DEFINITIONS.—In this subtitle:

“(1) COUNCIL.—The term ‘Council’ means the
Cyber Incident Reporting Council described in sec-
section 1752(c)(1)(H) of the William M. (Mac) Thorn-
(2) COVERED CYBER INCIDENT.—The term ‘covered cyber incident’ means a substantial cyber incident experienced by a covered entity that satisfies the definition and criteria established by the Director in the interim final rule and final rule issued pursuant to section 2232.

(3) COVERED ENTITY.—The term ‘covered entity’ means an entity that owns or operates critical infrastructure that satisfies the definition established by the Director in the interim final rule and final rule issued pursuant to section 2232.

(4) CYBER INCIDENT.—The term ‘cyber incident’ has the meaning given the term ‘incident’ in section 2209(a).

(5) CYBER THREAT.—The term ‘cyber threat’—

(A) has the meaning given the term ‘cybersecurity threat’ in section 102 of the Cybersecurity Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1501); and

(B) does not include any activity related to good faith security research, including participation in a bug-bounty program or a vulnerability disclosure program.

“(7) Small business.—The term ‘small business’—

“(A) means a business with fewer than 50 employees (determined on a full-time equivalent basis); and

“(B) does not include—

“(i) a business that is a covered entity; or

“(ii) a business that holds a government contract, unless that contractor is a party only to—

“(I) a service contract to provide housekeeping or custodial services; or

“(II) a contract to provide products or services unrelated to information technology that is below the
micro-purchase threshold, as defined in section 2.101 of title 48, Code of Federal Regulations, or any successor regulation.

“SEC. 2231. CYBER INCIDENT REVIEW OFFICE.

“(a) Cyber Incident Review Office.—There is established in the Agency a Cyber Incident Review Office (in this section referred to as the ‘Office’) to receive, aggregate, and analyze reports related to covered cyber incidents submitted by covered entities in furtherance of the activities specified in subsection (c) of this section and sections 2202(e), 2203, and 2209(c) and any other authorized activity of the Director to enhance the situational awareness of cyber threats across critical infrastructure sectors.

“(b) Activities.—The Office shall, in furtherance of the activities specified in sections 2202(e), 2203, and 2209(c)—

“(1) receive, aggregate, analyze, and secure, consistent with the requirements under the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1501 et seq.) reports from covered entities related to a covered cyber incident to assess the effectiveness of security controls and identify tactics, techniques,
and procedures adversaries use to overcome those controls;

“(2) receive, aggregate, analyze, and secure reports related to ransom payments to identify tactics, techniques, and procedures, including identifying and tracking ransom payments utilizing virtual currencies, adversaries use to perpetuate ransomware attacks and facilitate ransom payments;

“(3) leverage information gathered about cybersecurity incidents to—

“(A) enhance the quality and effectiveness of information sharing and coordination efforts with appropriate entities, including agencies, sector coordinating councils, information sharing and analysis organizations, technology providers, cybersecurity and incident response firms, and security researchers; and

“(B) provide appropriate entities, including agencies, sector coordinating councils, information sharing and analysis organizations, technology providers, cybersecurity and incident response firms, and security researchers, with timely, actionable, and anonymized reports of cyber attack campaigns and trends, including, to the maximum extent practicable, related con-
textual information, cyber threat indicators, and
defensive measures;

“(4) establish mechanisms to receive feedback
from stakeholders on how the Agency can most ef-
fectively receive covered cyber incident reports, ran-
som payment reports, and other voluntarily provided
information;

“(5) facilitate the timely sharing, on a vol-
untary basis, between relevant critical infrastructure
owners and operators of information relating to cov-
ered cyber incidents and ransom payments, particu-
larly with respect to ongoing cyber threats or secu-

rity vulnerabilities and identify and disseminate
ways to prevent or mitigate similar incidents in the
future;

“(6) for a covered cyber incident, including a
ransomware attack, that also satisfies the definition
of a substantial cyber incident, or is part of a group
of related cyber incidents that together satisfy such
definition, conduct a review of the details sur-
rounding the covered cyber incident or group of
those incidents and identify and disseminate ways to
prevent or mitigate similar incidents in the future;

“(7) with respect to covered cyber incident re-
ports under subsection (e) involving an ongoing
cyber threat or security vulnerability, immediately
review those reports for cyber threat indicators that
can be anonymized and disseminated, with defensive
measures, to appropriate stakeholders, in coordina-
tion with other divisions within the Agency, as ap-
propriate;

“(8) publish quarterly unclassified, public re-
ports that may be based on the unclassified informa-
tion contained in the reports required under sub-
section (c);

“(9) proactively identify opportunities and per-
form analyses, consistent with the protections in sec-
section 2235, to leverage and utilize data on ransom at-
tacks to support law enforcement operations to iden-
tify, track, and seize ransom payments utilizing vir-
tual currencies, to the greatest extent practicable;

“(10) proactively identify opportunities, con-
sistent with the protections in section 2235, to lever-
age and utilize data on cyber incidents in a manner
that enables and strengthens cybersecurity research
carried out by academic institutions and other pri-
ivate sector organizations, to the greatest extent
practicable;

“(11) on a not less frequently than annual
basis, analyze public disclosures made pursuant to
parts 229 and 249 of title 17, Code of Federal Regulations, or any subsequent document submitted to the Securities and Exchange Commission by entities experiencing cyber incidents and compare such disclosures to reports received by the Office; and

“(12) in accordance with section 2235, not later than 24 hours after receiving a covered cyber incident report or ransom payment report, share the reported information with appropriate Sector Risk Management Agencies and other appropriate agencies as determined by the Director of Office Management and Budget, in consultation with the Director and the National Cyber Director.

“(c) PERIODIC REPORTING.—Not later than 60 days after the effective date of the interim final rule required under section 2232(b)(1), and on the first day of each month thereafter, the Director, in consultation with the Attorney General and the Director of National Intelligence, shall submit to the National Cyber Director, the majority leader of the Senate, the minority leader of the Senate, the Speaker of the House of Representatives, the minority leader of the House of Representatives, the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives a report that character-
izes the cyber threat facing Federal agencies and covered
entities, including applicable intelligence and law enforce-
ment information, covered cyber incidents, and ransom-
ware attacks, as of the date of the report, which shall—

“(1) include the total number of reports sub-
mitted under sections 2232 and 2233 during the
preceding month, including a breakdown of required
and voluntary reports;

“(2) include any identified trends in covered
cyber incidents and ransomware attacks over the
course of the preceding month and as compared to
previous reports, including any trends related to the
information collected in the reports submitted under
sections 2232 and 2233, including—

“(A) the infrastructure, tactics, and tech-
niques malicious cyber actors commonly use;
and

“(B) intelligence gaps that have, or cur-
rently are, impeding the ability to counter cov-
ered cyber incidents and ransomware threats;

“(3) include a summary of the known uses of
the information in reports submitted under sections
2232 and 2233; and

“(4) be unclassified, but may include a classi-
fied annex.
“(d) ORGANIZATION.—The Director may organize the Office within the Agency as the Director deems appropriate, including harmonizing the functions of the Office with other authorized activities.

“SEC. 2232. REQUIRED REPORTING OF CERTAIN CYBER INCIDENTS.

“(a) IN GENERAL.—

“(1) COVERED CYBER INCIDENT REPORTS.—A covered entity shall report a covered cyber incident to the Director not later than 72 hours after the covered entity reasonably believes that a covered cyber incident has occurred.

“(2) RANSOM PAYMENT REPORTS.—An entity, including a covered entity and except for an individual or a small business, that makes a ransom payment as the result of a ransomware attack against the entity shall report the payment to the Director not later than 24 hours after the ransom payment has been made.

“(3) SUPPLEMENTAL REPORTS.—A covered entity shall promptly submit to the Director an update or supplement to a previously submitted covered cyber incident report if new or different information becomes available or if the covered entity makes a
ransom payment after submitting a covered cyber incident report required under paragraph (1).

“(4) PRESERVATION OF INFORMATION.—Any entity subject to requirements of paragraph (1), (2), or (3) shall preserve data relevant to the covered cyber incident or ransom payment in accordance with procedures established in the interim final rule and final rule issued pursuant to subsection (b).

“(5) EXCEPTIONS.—

“(A) REPORTING OF COVERED CYBER INCIDENT WITH RANSOM PAYMENT.—If a covered cyber incident includes a ransom payment such that the reporting requirements under paragraphs (1) and (2) apply, the covered entity may submit a single report to satisfy the requirements of both paragraphs in accordance with procedures established in the interim final rule and final rule issued pursuant to subsection (b).

“(B) SUBSTANTIALLY SIMILAR REPORTED INFORMATION.—The requirements under paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) shall not apply to an entity required by law, regulation, or contract to report substantially similar information to
another Federal agency within a substantially similar timeframe.

“(6) MANNER, TIMING, AND FORM OF REPORTS.—Reports made under paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) shall be made in the manner and form, and within the time period in the case of reports made under paragraph (3), prescribed according to the interim final rule and final rule issued pursuant to subsection (b).

“(7) EFFECTIVE DATE.—Paragraphs (1) through (4) shall take effect on the dates prescribed in the interim final rule and the final rule issued pursuant to subsection (b), except that the requirements of paragraph (1) through (4) shall not be effective for a period for more than 18 months after the effective date of the interim final rule if the Director has not issued a final rule pursuant to subsection (b)(2).

“(b) RULEMAKING.—

“(1) INTERIM FINAL RULE.—Not later than 270 days after the date of enactment of this section, and after a 60-day consultative period, followed by a 90-day comment period with appropriate stakeholders, the Director, in consultation with Sector Risk Management Agencies and the heads of other...
Federal agencies, shall publish in the Federal Register an interim final rule to implement subsection (a).

“(2) Final rule.—Not later than 1 year after publication of the interim final rule under paragraph (1), the Director shall publish a final rule to implement subsection (a).

“(3) Subsequent rulemakings.—Any rule to implement subsection (a) issued after publication of the final rule under paragraph (2), including a rule to amend or revise the final rule issued under paragraph (2), shall comply with the requirements under chapter 5 of title 5, United States Code, including the issuance of a notice of proposed rulemaking under section 553 of such title.

“(c) Elements.—The interim final rule and final rule issued pursuant to subsection (b) shall be composed of the following elements:

“(1) A clear description of the types of entities that constitute covered entities, based on—

“(A) the consequences that disruption to or compromise of such an entity could cause to national security, economic security, or public health and safety;
“(B) the likelihood that such an entity may be targeted by a malicious cyber actor, including a foreign country; and

“(C) the extent to which damage, disruption, or unauthorized access to such an entity, including the accessing of sensitive cybersecurity vulnerability information or penetration testing tools or techniques, will likely enable the disruption of the reliable operation of critical infrastructure.

“(2) A clear description of the types of substantial cyber incidents that constitute covered cyber incidents, which shall—

“(A) at a minimum, require the occurrence of—

“(i) the unauthorized access to an information system or network with a substantial loss of confidentiality, integrity, or availability of such information system or network, or a serious impact on the safety and resiliency of operational systems and processes;

“(ii) a disruption of business or industrial operations due to a cyber incident; or
“(iii) an occurrence described in clause (i) or (ii) due to loss of service facilitated through, or caused by, a compromise of a cloud service provider, managed service provider, or other third-party data hosting provider or by a supply chain compromise;

“(B) consider—

“(i) the sophistication or novelty of the tactics used to perpetrate such an incident, as well as the type, volume, and sensitivity of the data at issue;

“(ii) the number of individuals directly or indirectly affected or potentially affected by such an incident; and

“(iii) potential impacts on industrial control systems, such as supervisory control and data acquisition systems, distributed control systems, and programmable logic controllers; and

“(C) exclude—

“(i) any event where the cyber incident is perpetuated by a United States Government entity, good-faith security research, or in response to an invitation by
the owner or operator of the information
system for third parties to find vulnerabili-
ties in the information system, such as
through a vulnerability disclosure program
or the use of authorized penetration test-
ing services; and

“(ii) the threat of disruption as extor-
tion, as described in section 2201(8)(B).

“(3) A requirement that, if a covered cyber inci-
dent or a ransom payment occurs following an ex-
empted threat described in paragraph (2)(C)(ii), the
entity shall comply with the requirements in this
subtitle in reporting the covered cyber incident or
ransom payment.

“(4) A clear description of the specific required
contents of a report pursuant to subsection (a)(1),
which shall include the following information, to the
extent applicable and available, with respect to a
covered cyber incident:

“(A) A description of the covered cyber in-
cident, including—

“(i) identification and a description of
the function of the affected information
systems, networks, or devices that were, or
are reasonably believed to have been, a-
fected by such incident;

“(ii) a description of the unauthorized
access with substantial loss of confiden-
tiality, integrity, or availability of the af-
fected information system or network or
disruption of business or industrial oper-
ations;

“(iii) the estimated date range of such
incident; and

“(iv) the impact to the operations of
the covered entity.

“(B) Where applicable, a description of the
vulnerabilities, tactics, techniques, and proce-
dures used to perpetuate the covered cyber inci-
dent.

“(C) Where applicable, any identifying or
contact information related to each actor rea-
sonably believed to be responsible for such inci-
dent.

“(D) Where applicable, identification of
the category or categories of information that
was, or is reasonably believed to have been,
accessed or acquired by an unauthorized per-
son.
“(E) The name and, if applicable, taxpayer identification number or other unique identifier of the entity impacted by the covered cyber incident.

“(F) Contact information, such as telephone number or electronic mail address, that the Office may use to contact the covered entity or an authorized agent of such covered entity, or, where applicable, the service provider of such covered entity acting with the express permission, and at the direction, of the covered entity to assist with compliance with the requirements of this subtitle.

“(5) A clear description of the specific required contents of a report pursuant to subsection (a)(2), which shall be the following information, to the extent applicable and available, with respect to a ransom payment:

“(A) A description of the ransomware attack, including the estimated date range of the attack.

“(B) Where applicable, a description of the vulnerabilities, tactics, techniques, and procedures used to perpetuate the ransomware attack.
“(C) Where applicable, any identifying or contact information related to the actor or actors reasonably believed to be responsible for the ransomware attack.

“(D) The name and, if applicable, taxpayer identification number or other unique identifier of the entity that made the ransom payment.

“(E) Contact information, such as telephone number or electronic mail address, that the Office may use to contact the entity that made the ransom payment or an authorized agent of such covered entity, or, where applicable, the service provider of such covered entity acting with the express permission, and at the direction of, that entity to assist with compliance with the requirements of this subtitle.

“(F) The date of the ransom payment.

“(G) The ransom payment demand, including the type of virtual currency or other commodity requested, if applicable.

“(H) The ransom payment instructions, including information regarding where to send the payment, such as the virtual currency address or physical address the funds were requested to be sent to, if applicable.
“(I) The amount of the ransom payment.

“(J) A summary of the due diligence re-
view required under subsection (e).

“(6) A clear description of the types of data re-
quired to be preserved pursuant to subsection (a)(4)
and the period of time for which the data is required
to be preserved.

“(7) Deadlines for submitting reports to the Di-
rector required under subsection (a)(3), which
shall—

“(A) be established by the Director in con-
sultation with the Council;

“(B) consider any existing regulatory re-
porting requirements similar in scope, purpose,
and timing to the reporting requirements to
which such a covered entity may also be sub-
ject, and make efforts to harmonize the timing
and contents of any such reports to the max-
imum extent practicable; and

“(C) balance the need for situational
awareness with the ability of the covered entity
to conduct incident response and investigations.

“(8) Procedures for—

“(A) entities to submit reports required by
paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of subsection (a),
which shall include, at a minimum, a concise, user-friendly web-based form;

“(B) the Office to carry out the enforcement provisions of section 2233, including with respect to the issuance of subpoenas and other aspects of noncompliance;

“(C) implementing the exceptions provided in subparagraphs (A), (B), and (D) of subsection (a)(5); and

“(D) anonymizing and safeguarding information received and disclosed through covered cyber incident reports and ransom payment reports that is known to be personal information of a specific individual or information that identifies a specific individual that is not directly related to a cybersecurity threat.

“(d) THIRD-PARTY REPORT SUBMISSION AND RANSOM PAYMENT.—

“(1) REPORT SUBMISSION.—An entity, including a covered entity, that is required to submit a covered cyber incident report or a ransom payment report may use a third party, such as an incident response company, insurance provider, service provider, information sharing and analysis organization,
or law firm, to submit the required report under subsection (a).

“(2) RANSOM PAYMENT.—If an entity impacted by a ransomware attack uses a third party to make a ransom payment, the third party shall not be required to submit a ransom payment report for itself under subsection (a)(2).

“(3) DUTY TO REPORT.—Third-party reporting under this subparagraph does not relieve a covered entity or an entity that makes a ransom payment from the duty to comply with the requirements for covered cyber incident report or ransom payment report submission.

“(4) RESPONSIBILITY TO ADVISE.—Any third party used by an entity that knowingly makes a ransom payment on behalf of an entity impacted by a ransomware attack shall advise the impacted entity of the responsibilities of the impacted entity regarding a due diligence review under subsection (e) and reporting ransom payments under this section.

“(e) DUE DILIGENCE REVIEW.—Before the date on which a covered entity, or an entity that would be required to submit a ransom payment report under this section if that entity makes a ransom payment, makes a ransom payment relating to a ransomware attack, the covered en-
tity or entity shall conduct a due diligence review of alter-
natives to making the ransom payment, including an anal-
ysis of whether the covered entity or entity can recover
from the ransomware attack through other means.

“(f) OUTREACH TO COVERED ENTITIES.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall conduct
an outreach and education campaign to inform likely
covered entities, entities that offer or advertise as a
service to customers to make or facilitate ransom
payments on behalf of entities impacted by ransom-
ware attacks, potential ransomware attack victims,
and other appropriate entities of the requirements of
paragraphs (1), (2), and (3) of subsection (a).

“(2) ELEMENTS.—The outreach and education
campaign under paragraph (1) shall include the fol-
lowing:

“(A) An overview of the interim final rule
and final rule issued pursuant to subsection (b).

“(B) An overview of mechanisms to submit
to the Office covered cyber incident reports and
information relating to the disclosure, retention,
and use of incident reports under this section.

“(C) An overview of the protections af-
forded to covered entities for complying with
the requirements under paragraphs (1), (2),
and (3) of subsection (a).

“(D) An overview of the steps taken under
section 2234 when a covered entity is not in
compliance with the reporting requirements
under subsection (a).

“(E) Specific outreach to cybersecurity
vendors, incident response providers, cybersecurity
insurance entities, and other entities that
may support covered entities or ransomware at-
tack victims.

“(F) An overview of the privacy and civil
liberties requirements in this subtitle.

“(3) COORDINATION.—In conducting the out-
reach and education campaign required under para-
graph (1), the Director may coordinate with—

“(A) the Critical Infrastructure Partner-
ship Advisory Council established under section
871;

“(B) information sharing and analysis or-
ganizations;

“(C) trade associations;

“(D) information sharing and analysis cen-
ters;

“(E) sector coordinating councils; and
“(F) any other entity as determined appropriate by the Director.

“(g) Evaluation of Standards.—

“(1) In general.—Before issuing the final rule pursuant to subsection (b)(2), the Director shall review the data collected by the Office, and in consultation with other appropriate entities, assess the effectiveness of the rule with respect to—

“(A) the number of reports received;

“(B) the utility of the reports received;

“(C) the number of supplemental reports required to be submitted; and

“(D) any other factor determined appropriate by the Director.

“(2) Submission to Congress.—The Director shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives the results of the evaluation described in paragraph (1) and may thereafter, in accordance with the requirements under subsection (b), publish in the Federal Register a final rule implementing this section.

“(h) Organization of Reports.—Notwithstanding chapter 35 of title 44, United States Code (commonly...
known as the ‘Paperwork Reduction Act’), the Director may reorganize and reformat the means by which covered cyber incident reports, ransom payment reports, and any other voluntarily offered information is submitted to the Office.

"SEC. 2233. VOLUNTARY REPORTING OF OTHER CYBER INCIDENTS.

(a) In General.—Entities may voluntarily report incidents or ransom payments to the Director that are not required under paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of section 2232(a), but may enhance the situational awareness of cyber threats.

(b) Voluntary Provision of Additional Information in Required Reports.—Entities may voluntarily include in reports required under paragraph (1), (2), or (3) of section 2232(a) information that is not required to be included, but may enhance the situational awareness of cyber threats.

(c) Application of Protections.—The protections under section 2235 applicable to covered cyber incident reports shall apply in the same manner and to the same extent to reports and information submitted under subsections (a) and (b).
“SEC. 2234. NONCOMPLIANCE WITH REQUIRED REPORTING.

“(a) PURPOSE.—In the event that an entity that is required to submit a report under section 2232(a) fails to comply with the requirement to report, the Director may obtain information about the incident or ransom payment by engaging the entity directly to request information about the incident or ransom payment, and if the Director is unable to obtain information through such engagement, by issuing a subpoena to the entity, pursuant to subsection (c), to gather information sufficient to determine whether a covered cyber incident or ransom payment has occurred, and, if so, whether additional action is warranted pursuant to subsection (d).

“(b) INITIAL REQUEST FOR INFORMATION.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—If the Director has reason to believe, whether through public reporting or other information in the possession of the Federal Government, including through analysis performed pursuant to paragraph (1) or (2) of section 2231(b), that an entity has experienced a covered cyber incident or made a ransom payment but failed to report such incident or payment to the Office within 72 hours in accordance to section 2232(a), the Director shall request additional information from the entity to confirm whether or not a covered cyber incident or ransom payment has occurred.
“(2) TREATMENT.—Information provided to the Office in response to a request under paragraph (1) shall be treated as if it was submitted through the reporting procedures established in section 2232.

“(c) AUTHORITY TO ISSUE SUBPOENAS AND DEBAR.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—If, after the date that is 72 hours from the date on which the Director made the request for information in subsection (b), the Director has received no response from the entity from which such information was requested, or received an inadequate response, the Director may issue to such entity a subpoena to compel disclosure of information the Director deems necessary to determine whether a covered cyber incident or ransom payment has occurred.

“(2) CIVIL ACTION.—

“(A) IN GENERAL.—If an entity fails to comply with a subpoena, the Director may refer the matter to the Attorney General to bring a civil action in a district court of the United States to enforce such subpoena.

“(B) VENUE.—An action under this paragraph may be brought in the judicial district in
which the entity against which the action is
brought resides, is found, or does business.

“(C) CONTEMPT OF COURT.—A court may
punish a failure to comply with a subpoena
issued under this subsection as a contempt of
court.

“(3) NON-DELEGATION.—The authority of the
Director to issue a subpoena under this subsection
may not be delegated.

“(4) DEBARMENT OF FEDERAL CONTRACTORS.—If a covered entity with a Federal Govern-
ment contract, grant, or cooperative agreement fails
to comply with a subpoena issued under this sub-
section—

“(A) the Director may refer the matter to
the Administrator of General Services; and

“(B) upon receiving a referral from the Di-
rector, the Administrator of General Services
may impose additional available penalties, in-
cluding suspension or debarment.

“(d) PROVISION OF CERTAIN INFORMATION TO AT-
TORNEY GENERAL.—

“(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding section
2235(a) and subsection (b)(2) of this section, if the
Director determines, based on the information pro-
vided in response to the subpoena issued pursuant to subsection (e), that the facts relating to the covered cyber incident or ransom payment at issue may constitute grounds for a regulatory enforcement action or criminal prosecution, the Director may provide that information to the Attorney General or the appropriate regulator, who may use that information for a regulatory enforcement action or criminal prosecution.

“(2) Application to certain entities and third parties.—A covered cyber incident or ransom payment report submitted to the Office by an entity that makes a ransom payment or third party under section 2232 shall not be used by any Federal, State, Tribal, or local government to investigate or take another law enforcement action against the entity that makes a ransom payment or third party.

“(3) Rule of construction.—Nothing in this subtitle shall be construed to provide an entity that submits a covered cyber incident report or ransom payment report under section 2232 any immunity from law enforcement action for making a ransom payment otherwise prohibited by law.
“(e) CONSIDERATIONS.—When determining whether to exercise the authorities provided under this section, the Director shall take into consideration—

“(1) the size and complexity of the entity;

“(2) the complexity in determining if a covered cyber incident has occurred;

“(3) prior interaction with the Agency or awareness of the entity of the policies and procedures of the Agency for reporting covered cyber incidents and ransom payments; and

“(4) for non-covered entities required to submit a ransom payment report, the ability of the entity to perform a due diligence review pursuant to section 2232(e).

“(f) EXCLUSIONS.—This section shall not apply to a State, local, Tribal, or territorial government entity.

“(g) REPORT TO CONGRESS.—The Director shall submit to Congress an annual report on the number of times the Director—

“(1) issued an initial request for information pursuant to subsection (b);

“(2) issued a subpoena pursuant to subsection (e);

“(3) brought a civil action pursuant to subsection (c)(2); or

“(4) for non-covered entities required to submit a ransom payment report, the ability of the entity to perform a due diligence review pursuant to section 2232(e).
“(4) conducted additional actions pursuant to subsection (d).

**SEC. 2235. INFORMATION SHARED WITH OR PROVIDED TO THE FEDERAL GOVERNMENT.**

“(a) **DISCLOSURE, RETENTION, AND USE.**—

“(1) **AUTHORIZED ACTIVITIES.**—Information provided to the Office or Agency pursuant to section 2232 may be disclosed to, retained by, and used by, consistent with otherwise applicable provisions of Federal law, any Federal agency or department, component, officer, employee, or agent of the Federal Government solely for—

“(A) a cybersecurity purpose;

“(B) the purpose of identifying—

“(i) a cyber threat, including the source of the cyber threat; or

“(ii) a security vulnerability;

“(C) the purpose of responding to, or otherwise preventing or mitigating, a specific threat of death, a specific threat of serious bodily harm, or a specific threat of serious economic harm, including a terrorist act or a use of a weapon of mass destruction;

“(D) the purpose of responding to, investigating, prosecuting, or otherwise preventing or
mitigating, a serious threat to a minor, including sexual exploitation and threats to physical safety; or

“(E) the purpose of preventing, investigating, disrupting, or prosecuting an offense arising out of a covered cyber incident or any of the offenses listed in section 105(d)(5)(A)(v) of the Cybersecurity Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1504(d)(5)(A)(v)).

“(2) AGENCY ACTIONS AFTER RECEIPT.—

“(A) RAPID, CONFIDENTIAL SHARING OF CYBER THREAT INDICATORS.—Upon receiving a covered cyber incident or ransom payment report submitted pursuant to this section, the Office shall immediately review the report to determine whether the incident that is the subject of the report is connected to an ongoing cyber threat or security vulnerability and where applicable, use such report to identify, develop, and rapidly disseminate to appropriate stakeholders actionable, anonymized cyber threat indicators and defensive measures.

“(B) STANDARDS FOR SHARING SECURITY VULNERABILITIES.—With respect to information in a covered cyber incident or ransom pay-
ment report regarding a security vulnerability referred to in paragraph (1)(B)(ii), the Director shall develop principles that govern the timing and manner in which information relating to security vulnerabilities may be shared, consistent with common industry best practices and United States and international standards.

“(3) PRIVACY AND CIVIL LIBERTIES.—Information contained in covered cyber incident and ransom payment reports submitted to the Office pursuant to section 2232 shall be retained, used, and disseminated, where permissible and appropriate, by the Federal Government in accordance with processes to be developed for the protection of personal information adopted pursuant to section 105 of the Cybersecurity Act of 2015 (6 U.S.C. 1504) and in a manner that protects from unauthorized use or disclosure any information that may contain—

“(A) personal information of a specific individual; or

“(B) information that identifies a specific individual that is not directly related to a cybersecurity threat.

“(4) DIGITAL SECURITY.—The Office shall ensure that reports submitted to the Office pursuant
to section 2232, and any information contained in
those reports, are collected, stored, and protected at
a minimum in accordance with the requirements for
moderate impact Federal information systems, as
described in Federal Information Processing Stan-
ards Publication 199, or any successor document.

“(5) Prohibition on use of information in
regulatory actions.—A Federal, State, local, or
Tribal government shall not use information about a
covered cyber incident or ransom payment obtained
solely through reporting directly to the Office in ac-
cordance with this subtitle to regulate, including
through an enforcement action, the lawful activities
of any non-Federal entity.

“(b) No waiver of privilege or protection.—
The submission of a report under section 2232 to the Of-
face shall not constitute a waiver of any applicable privilege
or protection provided by law, including trade secret pro-
tection and attorney-client privilege.

“(c) Exemption from disclosure.—Information
contained in a report submitted to the Office under section
2232 shall be exempt from disclosure under section
552(b)(3)(B) of title 5, United States Code (commonly
known as the ‘Freedom of Information Act’) and any
State, Tribal, or local provision of law requiring disclosure
of information or records.

“(d) **Ex Parte Communications.**—The submission
of a report to the Agency under section 2232 shall not
be subject to a rule of any Federal agency or department
or any judicial doctrine regarding ex parte communica-
tions with a decision-making official.

“(e) **Liability Protections.**—

“(1) **In General.**—No cause of action shall lie
or be maintained in any court by any person or enti-
ty and any such action shall be promptly dismissed
for the submission of a report pursuant to section
2232(a) that is submitted in conformance with this
subtitle and the rules promulgated under section
2232(b), except that this subsection shall not apply
with regard to an action by the Federal Government
pursuant to section 2234(c)(2).

“(2) **Scope.**—The liability protections provided
in subsection (e) shall only apply to or affect litiga-
tion that is solely based on the submission of a cov-
ered cyber incident report or ransom payment report
to the Office, and nothing in this subtitle shall cre-
ate a defense to a discovery request, or otherwise
limit or affect the discovery of information from a
cause of action authorized under any Federal, State, local, or Tribal law.

“(f) **Sharing With Federal and Non-Federal Entities.**—The Agency shall anonymize the victim who reported the information when making information provided in reports received under section 2232 available to critical infrastructure owners and operators and the general public.

“(g) **Proprietary Information.**—Information contained in a report submitted to the Agency under section 2232 shall be considered the commercial, financial, and proprietary information of the covered entity when so designated by the covered entity.”.

(c) **Technical and Conforming Amendment.**—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–296; 116 Stat. 2135) is amended by inserting after the items relating to subtitle B of title XXII the following:

“Subtitle C—Cyber Incident Reporting

“Sec. 2230. Definitions.
“Sec. 2231. Cyber Incident Review Office.
“Sec. 2232. Required reporting of certain cyber incidents.
“Sec. 2233. Voluntary reporting of other cyber incidents.
“Sec. 2234. Noncompliance with required reporting.
“Sec. 2235. Information shared with or provided to the Federal Government.”.

SEC. 4. **Federal Sharing of Incident Reports.**

(a) **Cyber Incident Reporting Sharing.**—Notwithstanding any other provision of law or regulation, any Federal agency that receives a report from an entity of
a cyber attack, including a ransomware attack, shall pro-
vide all such information to the Director of the Cybersecu-

rity Infrastructure Security Agency not later than 24
hours after receiving the report, unless a shorter period
is required by an agreement made between the Cyber Inci-
dent Review Office established under section 2231 of the
Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by section 3(b)
of this Act, and another Federal entity.

(b) CREATION OF COUNCIL.—Section 1752(c)(1) of
the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Au-
thorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (6 U.S.C.
1500(c)(1)) is amended—

(1) in subparagraph (G), by striking “and” at
the end;

(2) by redesignating subparagraph (H) as sub-
paragraph (I); and

(3) by inserting after subparagraph (G) the fol-
lowing:

“(H) lead an intergovernmental Cyber In-
cident Reporting Council, in coordination with
the Director of the Office of Management and
Budget and the Director of the Cybersecurity
and Infrastructure Security Agency and in con-
sultation with Sector Risk Management Agen-
cies (as defined in section 2201 of the Home-
land Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 651)) and
other appropriate Federal agencies, to coordi-
nate, deconflict, and harmonize Federal incident
reporting requirements, including those issued
through regulations, for covered entities (as de-
defined in section 2230 of such Act) and entities
that make a ransom payment (as defined in
such section 2201 (6 U.S.C. 651)); and”.

(e) HARMONIZING REPORTING REQUIREMENTS.—
The National Cyber Director shall, in consultation with
the Director, the Cyber Incident Reporting Council de-
scribed in section 1752(c)(1)(H) of the William M. (Mac)
Year 2021 (6 U.S.C. 1500(c)(1)(H)), and the Director of
the Office of Management and Budget, to the maximum
extent practicable—

(1) review existing regulatory requirements, in-
cluding the information required in such reports, to
report cyber incidents and ensure that any such re-
porting requirements and procedures avoid con-
fllicting, duplicative, or burdensome requirements;
and

(2) coordinate with the Director and regulatory
authorities that receive reports relating to cyber inci-
dents to identify opportunities to streamline report-
ing processes, and where feasible, facilitate inter-
agency agreements between such authorities to per-
mit the sharing of such reports, consistent with ap-
plicable law and policy, without impacting the ability
of such agencies to gain timely situational awareness
of a covered cyber incident or ransom payment.

SEC. 5. RANSOMWARE VULNERABILITY WARNING PILOT
PROGRAM.

(a) PROGRAM.—Not less than 90 days after the date
of enactment of this Act, the Director shall establish a
ransomware vulnerability warning program to leverage ex-
isting authorities and technology to specifically develop
processes and procedures, and to dedicate resources, to
identifying information systems that contain security
vulnerabilities associated with common ransomware at-
tacks, and to notify the owners of those vulnerable systems
of their security vulnerability.

(b) IDENTIFICATION OF VULNERABLE SYSTEMS.—
The pilot program established under subsection (a) shall—

(1) identify the most common security vulnera-
ilities utilized in ransomware attacks and mitiga-
tion techniques; and

(2) utilize existing authorities to identify Fed-
eral and other relevant information systems that
containing the security vulnerabilities identified in paragraph (1).

(c) **ENTITY NOTIFICATION.**—

(1) **IDENTIFICATION.**—If the Director is able to identify the entity at risk that owns or operates a vulnerable information system identified in subsection (b), the Director may notify the owner of the information system.

(2) **NO IDENTIFICATION.**—If the Director is not able to identify the entity at risk that owns or operates a vulnerable information system identified in subsection (b), the Director may utilize the subpoena authority pursuant to section 2209 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 659) to identify and notify the entity at risk pursuant to the procedures within that section.

(3) **REQUIRED INFORMATION.**—A notification made under paragraph (1) shall include information on the identified security vulnerability and mitigation techniques.

(d) **PRIORITIZATION OF NOTIFICATIONS.**—To the extent practical, the Director shall prioritize covered entities for identification and notification activities under the pilot program established under this section.
(c) LIMITATION ON PROCEDURES.—No procedure, notification, or other authorities utilized in the execution of the pilot program established under subsection (a) shall require an owner or operator of a vulnerable information system to take any action as a result of a notice of a security vulnerability made pursuant to subsection (c).

(f) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing in this section shall be construed to provide additional authorities to the Director to identify vulnerabilities or vulnerable systems.

SEC. 6. RANSOMWARE THREAT MITIGATION ACTIVITIES.

(a) JOINT RANSOMWARE TASK FORCE.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this section, the National Cyber Director shall establish and chair the Joint Ransomware Task Force to coordinate an ongoing, nationwide campaign against ransomware attacks, and identify and pursue opportunities for international cooperation.

(2) COMPOSITION.—The Joint Ransomware Task Force shall consist of participants from Federal agencies, as determined appropriate by the National Cyber Director in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security.
(3) Responsibilities.—The Joint Ransomware Task Force, utilizing only existing authorities of each participating agency, shall coordinate across the Federal Government the following activities:

(A) Prioritization of intelligence-driven operations to disrupt specific ransomware actors.

(B) Consult with relevant private sector, State, local, Tribal, and territorial governments and international stakeholders to identify needs and establish mechanisms for providing input into the Task Force.

(C) Identifying, in consultation with relevant entities, a list of highest threat ransomware entities updated on an ongoing basis, in order to facilitate—

(i) prioritization for Federal action by appropriate Federal agencies; and

(ii) identify metrics for success of said actions.

(D) Disrupting ransomware criminal actors, associated infrastructure, and their finances.

(E) Facilitating coordination and collaboration between Federal entities and relevant en-
entities, including the private sector, to improve Federal actions against ransomware threats.

(F) Collection, sharing, and analysis of ransomware trends to inform Federal actions.

(G) Creation of after-action reports and other lessons learned from Federal actions that identify successes and failures to improve subsequent actions.

(H) Any other activities determined appropriate by the task force to mitigate the threat of ransomware attacks against Federal and non-Federal entities.

(b) Clarifying Private-Sector Lawful Defensive Measures.—Not later than 180 days after the date of enactment of this Act, the National Cyber Director, in coordination with the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Attorney General, shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security, the Committee on the Judiciary, and the Committee on Oversight and Reform of the House of Representatives a report that describes defensive measures that private-sector actors can take when countering ransomware attacks and what laws need to be clarified to enable that action.
(c) **Rule of Construction.**—Nothing in this section shall be construed as providing any additional authority to any Federal agency.

**SEC. 7. CONGRESSIONAL REPORTING.**

(a) **Report on Stakeholder Engagement.**—Not later than 30 days after the date on which the Director issues the interim final rule under section 2232(b)(1) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by section 3(b) of this Act, the Director shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives a report that describes how the Director engaged stakeholders in the development of the interim final rule.

(b) **Report on Opportunities to Strengthen Security Research.**—Not later than 1 year after the date of enactment of this Act, the Director shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives a report describing how the Cyber Incident Review Office has carried out activities under section 2231(b)(9) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by section 3(b) of this Act, by proactively identifying opportunities to use cyber inci-
dent data to inform and enabling cybersecurity research
within the academic and private sector.

(c) REPORT ON RANSOMWARE VULNERABILITY WARNING PILOT PROGRAM.—Not later than 1 year after
the date of enactment of this Act, and annually thereafter
for the duration of the pilot program established under
section 5, the Director shall submit to the Committee on
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Sen-
ate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the
House of Representatives a report, which may include a
classified annex, on the effectiveness of the pilot program,
which shall include a discussion of the following:

(1) The effectiveness of the notifications under
section 5(e) to mitigate security vulnerabilities and
the threat of ransomware.

(2) The identification of most common vulnera-
bilities utilized in ransomware.

(3) The number of notifications issued during
the preceding year.

(4) To the extent practicable, the number of
vulnerable devices or systems mitigated under this
pilot by the Agency during the preceding year.

(d) REPORT ON HARMONIZATION OF REPORTING
REGULATIONS.—Not later than 180 days after the date
on which the National Cyber Director convenes the Coun-
cil described in section 1752(c)(1)(H) of the William M. (Mac) Thornberry National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2021 (6 U.S.C. 1500(c)(1)(H)), the National Cyber Director shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees a report that includes—

(1) a list of duplicative Federal cyber incident reporting requirements on covered entities and entities that make a ransom payment;

(2) any actions the National Cyber Director intends to take to harmonize the duplicative reporting requirements; and

(3) any proposed legislative changes necessary to address the duplicative reporting.

(e) GAO REPORT.—Not later than 2 years after the date of enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate and the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives a report on the implementation of this Act and the amendments made by this Act.