

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1474

To require the Director of National Intelligence to submit a pre-election threat assessment prior to each regularly scheduled general election for Federal office, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 28, 2019

Ms. SPANBERGER introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence

A BILL

To require the Director of National Intelligence to submit a pre-election threat assessment prior to each regularly scheduled general election for Federal office, and for other purposes.

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 “Strengthening Elec-
5 tions Through Intelligence Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. PRE-ELECTION THREAT ASSESSMENTS.**

7 (a) SUBMISSION OF ASSESSMENT BY DNI.—Not
8 later than 180 days before the date of each regularly

1 scheduled general election for Federal office, the Director
2 of National Intelligence shall submit an assessment of the
3 full scope of threats to election infrastructure, including
4 cybersecurity threats posed by state actors and terrorist
5 groups, and recommendations to address or mitigate the
6 threats, as developed by the Secretary and Chairman, to—

7 (1) the chief State election official of each
8 State;

9 (2) the Committees on Homeland Security and
10 House Administration of the House of Representa-
11 tives and the Committees on Homeland Security and
12 Governmental Affairs and Rules and Administration
13 of the Senate; and

14 (3) any other appropriate congressional com-
15 mittees.

16 (b) UPDATES TO INITIAL ASSESSMENTS.—If, at any
17 time after submitting an assessment with respect to an
18 election under subsection (a), the Director of National In-
19 telligence determines that the assessment should be up-
20 dated to reflect new information regarding the threats in-
21 volved, the Director shall submit a revised assessment
22 under such subsection.

23 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section, the following defi-
24 nitions apply:

1 (1) The term “Chairman” means the chair of
2 the Election Assistance Commission.

3 (2) The term “chief State election official”
4 means, with respect to a State, the individual des-
5 ignated by the State under section 10 of the Na-
6 tional Voter Registration Act of 1993 (52 U.S.C.
7 20509) to be responsible for coordination of the
8 State’s responsibilities under such Act.

9 (3) The term “election infrastructure” means
10 storage facilities, polling places, and centralized vote
11 tabulation locations used to support the administra-
12 tion of elections for public office, as well as related
13 information and communications technology, includ-
14 ing voter registration databases, voting machines,
15 electronic mail and other communications systems
16 (including electronic mail and other systems of ven-
17 dors who have entered into contracts with election
18 agencies to support the administration of elections,
19 manage the election process, and report and display
20 election results), and other systems used to manage
21 the election process and to report and display elec-
22 tion results on behalf of an election agency.

23 (4) The term “Secretary” means the Secretary
24 of Homeland Security.

1 (5) The term “State” has the meaning given
2 such term in section 901 of the Help America Vote
3 Act of 2002 (52 U.S.C. 21141).

4 (d) EFFECTIVE DATE.—This Act shall apply with re-
5 spect to the regularly scheduled general election for Fed-
6 eral office held in November 2020 and each succeeding
7 regularly scheduled general election for Federal office.

○