

**Calendar No. 76**118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION**S. 917****[Report No. 118–32]**

To establish the duties of the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency regarding open source software security, and for other purposes.

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**IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES**

MARCH 22, 2023

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

MAY 16, 2023

Reported by Mr. PETERS, with amendments

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**A BILL**

To establish the duties of the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency regarding open source software security, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Securing Open Source  
3 Software Act of 2023”.

4 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

5 Congress finds that—

6 (1) open source software fosters technology de-  
7 velopment and is an integral part of overall cyberse-  
8 curity;

9 (2) a secure, healthy, vibrant, and resilient open  
10 source software ecosystem is crucial for ensuring the  
11 national security and economic vitality of the United  
12 States;

13 (3) open source software is part of the founda-  
14 tion of digital infrastructure that promotes a free  
15 and open internet;

16 (4) due to both the unique strengths of open  
17 source software and inconsistent historical invest-  
18 ment in open source software security, there exist  
19 unique challenges in securing open source software;  
20 and

21 (5) the Federal Government should play a sup-  
22 porting role in ensuring the long-term security of  
23 open source software.

24 **SEC. 3. OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE SECURITY DUTIES.**

25 (a) IN GENERAL.—Title XXII of the Homeland Se-  
26 curity Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 650 et seq.) is amended—

1 (1) in section 2200 (6 U.S.C. 650)—

2 (A) by redesignating paragraphs (22)  
3 through (28) as paragraphs (25) through (31),  
4 respectively; and

5 (B) by inserting after paragraph (21) the  
6 following:

7 “(22) OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE.—The term  
8 ‘open source software’ means software for which the  
9 human-readable source code is made available to the  
10 public for use, study, re-use, modification, enhance-  
11 ment, and re-distribution.

12 “(23) OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE COMMUNITY.—  
13 The term ‘open source software community’ means  
14 the community of individuals, foundations, nonprofit  
15 organizations, corporations, and other entities  
16 that—

17 “(A) develop, contribute to, maintain, and  
18 publish open source software; or

19 “(B) otherwise work to ensure the security  
20 of the open source software ecosystem.

21 “(24) OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE COMPONENT.—  
22 The term ‘open source software component’ means  
23 an individual repository of open source software that  
24 is made available to the public.”;

25 (2) in section 2202(c) (6 U.S.C. 652(c))—

1 (A) in paragraph (13), by striking “and”  
2 at the end;

3 (B) by redesignating paragraph (14) as  
4 paragraph (15); and

5 (C) by inserting after paragraph (13) the  
6 following:

7 “(14) support, including by offering services,  
8 the secure usage and deployment of software, includ-  
9 ing open source software, in the software develop-  
10 ment lifecycle at Federal agencies in accordance with  
11 section ~~2220E~~ *section 2220F*; and”; and

12 (3) by adding at the end the following:

13 **“SEC. 2220F. OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE SECURITY DUTIES.**

14 “(a) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term ‘soft-  
15 ware bill of materials’ has the meaning given the term in  
16 the Minimum Elements for a Software Bill of Materials  
17 published by the Department of Commerce, or any super-  
18 seding definition published by the Agency.

19 “(b) EMPLOYMENT.—The Director shall, to the  
20 greatest extent practicable, employ individuals in the  
21 Agency who—

22 “(1) have expertise and experience participating  
23 in the open source software community; and

24 “(2) perform the duties described in subsection  
25 (c).

1 “(c) DUTIES OF THE DIRECTOR.—

2 “(1) IN GENERAL.—The Director shall—

3 “(A) perform outreach and engagement to  
4 bolster the security of open source software;

5 “(B) support Federal efforts to strengthen  
6 the security of open source software;

7 “(C) coordinate, as appropriate, with non-  
8 Federal entities on efforts to ensure the long-  
9 term security of open source software;

10 “(D) serve as a public point of contact re-  
11 garding the security of open source software for  
12 non-Federal entities, including State, local,  
13 Tribal, and territorial partners, the private sec-  
14 tor, international partners, ~~open source soft-~~  
15 ~~ware organizations, and open source software~~  
16 ~~developers~~ *and the open source software commu-*  
17 *nity; and*

18 “(E) support Federal and non-Federal  
19 supply chain security efforts by encouraging ef-  
20 forts to bolster open source software security,  
21 such as—

22 “(i) assisting in coordinated vulner-  
23 ability disclosures in open source software  
24 components pursuant to section 2209(n);  
25 and

1                   “(ii) supporting the activities of the  
2                   Federal Acquisition Security Council.

3                   “(2) ASSESSMENT OF CRITICAL OPEN SOURCE  
4                   SOFTWARE COMPONENTS.—

5                   “(A) FRAMEWORK.—Not later than 1 year  
6                   after the date of enactment of this section, the  
7                   Director shall publicly publish a framework, in-  
8                   corporating government, industry, and open  
9                   source software community frameworks and  
10                  best practices, including those published by the  
11                  National Institute of Standards and Tech-  
12                  nology, for assessing the risk of open source  
13                  software components, including direct and indi-  
14                  rect open source software dependencies, which  
15                  shall incorporate, at a minimum—

16                  “(i) the security properties of code in  
17                  a given open source software component,  
18                  such as whether the code is written in a  
19                  memory-safe programming language;

20                  “(ii) the security practices of develop-  
21                  ment, build, and release processes of a  
22                  given open source software component,  
23                  such as the use of multi-factor authentica-  
24                  tion by maintainers and cryptographic  
25                  signing of releases;

1           “(iii) the number and severity of pub-  
2           licly known, unpatched vulnerabilities in a  
3           given open source software component;

4           “(iv) the breadth of deployment of a  
5           given open source software component;

6           “(v) the level of risk associated with  
7           where a given open source software compo-  
8           nent is integrated or deployed, such as  
9           whether the component operates on a net-  
10          work boundary or in a privileged location;  
11          and

12          “(vi) the health of the *open source*  
13          *software* community for a given open  
14          source software component, including,  
15          where applicable, the level of current and  
16          historical investment and maintenance in  
17          the open source software component, such  
18          as the number and activity of individual  
19          maintainers.

20          “(B) UPDATING FRAMEWORK.—Not less  
21          frequently than annually after the date on  
22          which the framework is published under sub-  
23          paragraph (A), the Director shall—

24                  “(i) determine whether updates are  
25                  needed to the framework described in sub-

1 paragraph (A), including the augmenta-  
2 tion, addition, or removal of the elements  
3 described in clauses (i) through (vi) of  
4 such subparagraph; and

5 “(ii) if the Director determines that  
6 additional updates are needed under clause  
7 (i), make those updates to the framework.

8 “(C) DEVELOPING FRAMEWORK.—In de-  
9 veloping the framework described in subpara-  
10 graph (A), the Director shall consult with—

11 “(i) appropriate Federal agencies, in-  
12 cluding the National Institute of Standards  
13 and Technology;

14 “(ii) individuals and nonprofit organi-  
15 zations from the open source software com-  
16 munity; and

17 “(iii) private companies from the open  
18 source software community.

19 “(D) USABILITY.—The Director shall en-  
20 sure, to the greatest extent practicable, that the  
21 framework described in subparagraph (A) is us-  
22 able by the open source software community,  
23 including through the consultation described in  
24 subparagraph (C).



1           “(E) FEDERAL OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE  
2 ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 1 year after the  
3 publication of the framework described in sub-  
4 paragraph (A), and not less frequently than  
5 every 2 years thereafter, the Director shall, to  
6 the greatest extent practicable and using the  
7 framework described in subparagraph (A)—

8           “(i) perform an assessment of open  
9 source software components used directly  
10 or indirectly by Federal agencies based on  
11 readily available, and, to the greatest ex-  
12 tent practicable, machine readable, infor-  
13 mation, such as—

14           “(I) software bills of materials  
15 that are, at the time of the assess-  
16 ment, made available to the Agency or  
17 are otherwise accessible via the inter-  
18 net;

19           “(II) software inventories, avail-  
20 able to the Director at the time of the  
21 assessment, from the Continuous  
22 Diagnostics and Mitigation program  
23 of the Agency; and

1                   “(III) other publicly available in-  
2                   formation regarding open source soft-  
3                   ware components; and

4                   “(ii) develop 1 or more ranked lists of  
5                   components described in clause (i) based  
6                   on the assessment, such as ranked by the  
7                   criticality, level of risk, or usage of the  
8                   components, or a combination thereof.

9                   “(F) AUTOMATION.—The Director shall, to  
10                  the greatest extent practicable, automate the  
11                  assessment conducted under subparagraph (E).

12                  “(G) PUBLICATION.—The Director shall  
13                  publicly publish and maintain any tools devel-  
14                  oped to conduct the assessment described in  
15                  subparagraph (E) as open source software.

16                  “(H) SHARING.—

17                  “(i) RESULTS.—The Director shall fa-  
18                  cilitate the sharing of the results of ~~the~~  
19                  *each* assessment described in subparagraph  
20                  (E) *(i)* with appropriate Federal and non-  
21                  Federal entities working to support the se-  
22                  curity of open source software, including  
23                  by offering means for appropriate Federal  
24                  and non-Federal entities to download the  
25                  assessment in an automated manner.

1           “(ii) DATASETS.—The Director may  
2 publicly publish, as appropriate, any  
3 datasets or versions of the datasets devel-  
4 oped or consolidated as a result of ~~the~~ *an*  
5 assessment described in subparagraph (E)  
6 *(i)*.

7           “(I) CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE ASSESS-  
8           MENT STUDY AND PILOT.—

9           “(i) STUDY.—Not later than 2 years  
10 after the publication of the framework de-  
11 scribed in subparagraph (A), the Director  
12 shall conduct a study regarding the feasi-  
13 bility of the Director conducting the as-  
14 sessment described in subparagraph (E)  
15 for critical infrastructure entities.

16           “(ii) PILOT.—

17           “(I) IN GENERAL.—If the Direc-  
18 tor determines that the assessment  
19 described in clause (i) is feasible, the  
20 Director may conduct a pilot assess-  
21 ment on a voluntary basis with 1 or  
22 more critical infrastructure sectors, in  
23 coordination with the Sector Risk  
24 Management Agency and the sector

1 coordinating council of each partici-  
2 pating sector.

3 “(II) TERMINATION.—If the Di-  
4 rector proceeds with the pilot de-  
5 scribed in ~~clause (ii)~~ *subclause (I)*, the  
6 pilot shall terminate on the date that  
7 is 2 years after the date on which the  
8 Director begins the pilot.

9 “(iii) REPORTS.—

10 “(I) STUDY.—Not later than 180  
11 days after the date on which the Di-  
12 rector completes the study conducted  
13 under clause (i), the Director shall  
14 submit to the appropriate congres-  
15 sional committees a report that—

16 “(aa) summarizes the study;  
17 and

18 “(bb) states whether the Di-  
19 rector plans to proceed with the  
20 pilot described in clause (ii) *(I)*.

21 “(II) PILOT.—If the Director  
22 proceeds with the pilot described in  
23 clause (ii), not later than 1 year after  
24 the date on which the Director begins  
25 the pilot, the Director shall submit to

1 the appropriate congressional commit-  
2 tees a report that includes—

3 “(aa) a summary of the re-  
4 sults of the pilot; and

5 “(bb) a recommendation as  
6 to whether the activities carried  
7 out under the pilot should be  
8 continued after the termination  
9 of the pilot described in clause  
10 (ii)(II).

11 “(3) COORDINATION WITH NATIONAL CYBER DI-  
12 RECTOR.—The Director shall—

13 “(A) brief the National Cyber Director on  
14 the activities described in this subsection; and

15 “(B) coordinate activities with the Na-  
16 tional Cyber Director, as appropriate.

17 “(4) REPORTS.—

18 “(A) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year  
19 after the date of enactment of this section, and  
20 every 2 years thereafter, the Director shall sub-  
21 mit to the appropriate congressional committees  
22 a report that includes—

23 “(i) a summary of the work on open  
24 source software security performed by the  
25 Director during the period covered by the

1 report, including a list of the Federal and  
2 non-Federal entities with which the Direc-  
3 tor interfaced;

4 “(ii) the framework developed under  
5 paragraph (2)(A);

6 “(iii) a summary of any updates made  
7 to the framework developed under para-  
8 graph (2)(A) pursuant to paragraph  
9 (2)(B) since the last report submitted  
10 under this subparagraph;

11 “(iv) a summary of ~~the~~ *each* assess-  
12 ment conducted pursuant to paragraph  
13 (2)(E) *since the last report was submitted*  
14 *under this subparagraph*;

15 “(v) a summary of changes made to  
16 the assessment conducted pursuant to  
17 paragraph (2)(E) since the last report sub-  
18 mitted under this subparagraph, including  
19 overall security trends; and

20 “(vi) a summary of the types of enti-  
21 ties with which ~~the~~ *an* assessment *con-*  
22 *ducted pursuant to paragraph (2)(E) since*  
23 *the last reported submitted under this sub-*  
24 *paragraph* was shared pursuant to para-  
25 graph (2)(H), including a list of the Fed-

1           eral and non-Federal entities with which  
2           the assessment was shared.

3           “(B) PUBLIC REPORT.—Not later than 30  
4           days after the date on which the Director sub-  
5           mits a report required under subparagraph (A),  
6           the Director shall make a version of the report  
7           publicly available on the website of the Agen-  
8           cy.”.

9           (b) TECHNICAL AND CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—  
10          The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Se-  
11          curity Act of 2002 (Public Law 107–296; 116 Stat. 2135)  
12          is amended by inserting after the item relating to section  
13          2220E the following:

          “Sec. 2220F. Open source software security duties.”.

14          **SEC. 4. SOFTWARE SECURITY ADVISORY SUBCOMMITTEE.**

15          Section 2219(d)(1) of the Homeland Security Act of  
16          2002 (6 U.S.C. 665e(d)(1)) is amended by adding at the  
17          end the following:

18                   “(E) Software security, including open  
19                   source software security.”.

20          **SEC. 5. OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE GUIDANCE.**

21          (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

22                   (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COM-  
23                   MITTEE.—The term “appropriate congressional com-  
24                   mittee” has the meaning given the term in section

1 2 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C.  
2 101).

3 (2) COVERED AGENCY.—The term “covered  
4 agency” means an agency described in section  
5 901(b) of title 31, United States Code.

6 (3) DIRECTOR.—The term “Director” means  
7 the Director of the Office of Management and Budg-  
8 et.

9 (4) NATIONAL SECURITY SYSTEM.—The term  
10 “national security system” has the meaning given  
11 the term in section 3552 of title 44, United States  
12 Code.

13 (5) OPEN SOURCE SOFTWARE; OPEN SOURCE  
14 SOFTWARE COMMUNITY.—The terms “open source  
15 software” and “open source software community”  
16 have the meanings given those terms in section 2200  
17 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C.  
18 650), as amended by section 3 of this Act.

19 (b) GUIDANCE.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after  
21 the date of enactment of this Act, the Director, in  
22 coordination with the National Cyber Director, the  
23 Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Se-  
24 curity Agency, and the Administrator of General  
25 Services, shall issue guidance on the responsibilities



1 of the chief information officer at each covered agen-  
2 cy regarding open source software, which shall in-  
3 clude—

4 (A) how chief information officers at each  
5 covered agency should, considering industry and  
6 open source software community best prac-  
7 tices—

8 (i) manage and reduce risks of using  
9 open source software; and

10 (ii) guide contributing to and releas-  
11 ing open source software;

12 (B) how chief information officers should  
13 enable, rather than inhibit, the secure usage of  
14 open source software at each covered agency;

15 (C) any relevant updates to the Memo-  
16 randum M-16-21 issued by the Office of Man-  
17 agement and Budget on August 8, 2016, enti-  
18 tled, “Federal Source Code Policy: Achieving  
19 Efficiency, Transparency, and Innovation  
20 through Reusable and Open Source Software”;  
21 and

22 (D) how covered agencies may contribute  
23 publicly to open source software that the cov-  
24 ered agency uses, including how chief informa-

1           tion officers should encourage those contribu-  
2           tions.

3           (2) EXEMPTION OF NATIONAL SECURITY SYS-  
4           TEMS.—The guidance issued under paragraph (1)  
5           shall not apply to national security systems.

6           (c) PILOT.—

7           (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after  
8           the date of enactment of this Act, the chief informa-  
9           tion officer of each covered agency selected under  
10          paragraph (2), in coordination with the Director, the  
11          National Cyber Director, the Director of the Cyber-  
12          security and Infrastructure Security Agency, and the  
13          Administrator of General Services, shall establish a  
14          pilot open source function at the covered agency  
15          that—

16                (A) is modeled after open source program  
17                offices, such as those in the private sector, the  
18                nonprofit sector, academia, and other non-Fed-  
19                eral entities; and

20                (B) shall—

21                    (i) support the secure usage of open  
22                    source software at the covered agency;

23                    (ii) develop policies and processes for  
24                    contributions to and releases of open  
25                    source software at the covered agency, in

1           consultation, as appropriate, with the of-  
2           fices of general counsel and procurement of  
3           the covered agency;

4           (iii) interface with the open source  
5           software community; and

6           (iv) manage and reduce risks of using  
7           open source software at the covered agen-  
8           cy.

9           (2) SELECTION OF PILOT AGENCIES.—The Di-  
10          rector, in coordination with the National Cyber Di-  
11          rector, the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infra-  
12          structure Security Agency, and the Administrator of  
13          General Services, shall select not less than 1 and not  
14          more than 5 covered agencies to conduct the pilot  
15          described in paragraph (1).

16          (3) ASSESSMENT.—Not later than 1 year after  
17          the establishment of the pilot open source functions  
18          described in paragraph (1), the Director, in coordi-  
19          nation with the National Cyber Director, the Direc-  
20          tor of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security  
21          Agency, and the Administrator of General Services,  
22          shall assess whether open source functions should be  
23          established at some or all covered agencies, includ-  
24          ing—

1 (A) how to organize those functions within  
2 covered agencies, such as the creation of open  
3 source program offices; and

4 (B) appropriate roles and responsibilities  
5 for those functions.

6 (4) GUIDANCE.—Notwithstanding the termi-  
7 nation of the pilot open source functions under para-  
8 graph (5), if the Director determines, based on the  
9 assessment described in paragraph (3), that some or  
10 all of the open source functions should be estab-  
11 lished at some or all covered agencies, the Director,  
12 in coordination with the National Cyber Director,  
13 the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure  
14 Security Agency, and the Administrator of General  
15 Services, shall issue guidance on the implementation  
16 of those functions.

17 (5) TERMINATION.—The pilot open source  
18 functions described in paragraph (1) shall terminate  
19 not later than 4 years after the establishment of the  
20 pilot open source functions.

21 (d) BRIEFING AND REPORT.—The Director shall—

22 (1) not later than 1 year after the date of en-  
23 actment of this Act, brief the appropriate congres-  
24 sional committees on the guidance issued under sub-  
25 section (b); and

1           (2) not later than 540 days after the establish-  
2           ment of the pilot open source functions under sub-  
3           section (c)(1), submit to the appropriate congress-  
4           sional committees a report on—

5                   (A) the pilot open source functions; and

6                   (B) the results of the assessment con-  
7           ducted under subsection (c)(3).

8           (e) DUTIES.—Section 3554(b) of title 44, United  
9           States Code, is amended—

10           (1) in paragraph (7), by striking “and” at the  
11           end;

12           (2) in paragraph (8), by striking the period at  
13           the end and inserting “; and”; and

14           (3) by adding at the end the following:

15                   “(9) plans and procedures to ensure the secure  
16           usage and development of software, including open  
17           source software *(as defined in section 2200 of the*  
18           *Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 650)).”*.

19           **SEC. 6. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

20           Nothing in this Act or the amendments made by this  
21           Act shall be construed to provide any additional regulatory  
22           authority to any Federal agency described therein.

Calendar No. 76

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1<sup>ST</sup> Session

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To establish the duties of the Director of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency regarding open source software security, and for other purposes.

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