

CISA MOVES: A SUMMARY

This afternoon, Aaron Richard Burr moved the Cyber Intelligence Sharing Act forward by introducing a manager's amendment that has limited privacy tweaks (permitting a scrub at DHS and limiting the use of CISA information to cyber crimes that nevertheless include to prevent threat to property), with a bunch of bigger privacy fix amendments, plus a Tom Cotton one and a horrible Sheldon Whitehouse one called as non-germane amendments requiring 60 votes.

Other than that, Burr, Dianne Feinstein, and Ron Wyden spoke on the bill.

Burr did some significant goalpost moving. Whereas in the past, he had suggested that CISA might have *prevented* the Office of Public Management hack, today he suggested CISA would limit how much data got stolen in a series of hacks. His claim is still false (in almost all the hacks he discussed, the attack vector was already known, but knowing it did nothing to prevent the continued hack).

Burr also likened this bill to a neighborhood watch, where everyone in the neighborhood looks out for the entire neighborhood. He neglected to mention that that neighborhood watch would also include that nosy granny type who reports every brown person in the neighborhood, and features self-defense just like George Zimmerman's neighborhood watch concept does. Worse, Burr suggested that those not participating in his neighborhood watch were had no protection, effectively suggesting that some of the best companies on securing themselves – like Google – were not protecting customers. Burr even suggested he didn't know anything about the companies that oppose the bill, which is funny, because Twitter opposes the bill, and Burr has a Twitter account.

Feinstein was worse. She mentioned the OPM hack

and then really suggested that a series of other hacks – including both the Sony hack and the DDOS attacks on online banking sites *that stole no data!* – were worse than the OPM hack.

Yes, the Vice Chair of SSCI really did say that the OPM hack was less serious than a bunch of other other hacks that didn't affect the national security of this country. Which, if I were one of the 21 million people whose security clearance data had been compromised, would make me very very furious.

DiFi also used language that made it clear she doesn't really understand how the information sharing portal works. She said something like, "Once cyber information enters the portal it will move at machine speed to other federal agencies," as if a conveyor belt will carry information from DHS to FBI.

Wyden mostly pointed out that this bill doesn't protect privacy. But he did call out Burr on his goalpost moving on whether the bill would prevent (his old claim) or just limit the damage of (his new one) attacks that it wouldn't affect at all.

Wyden did, however, object to unanimous consent because Whitehouse's crappy amendment was being given a vote, which led Burr to complain that Wyden wasn't going to hold this up.

Finally, Burr came back on the floor, not only to bad mouth companies that oppose this bill again (and insist it was voluntary so they shouldn't care) but also to do what I thought even he wouldn't do: suggest we need to pass CISA because a 13 year old stoner hacked the CIA Director.