SAMPLE SPEECH

I appreciate the opportunity to be with you here today.

Thank you to Dr. Hamre and Jim Lewis for organizing today's event. I enjoyed spending some time with Jim on Sunday morning where we talked about cyber security over a cup of coffee. The best part was the coffee was paid for by CBS News and for a Republican, that's a beautiful thing.

Well, these days I am just happy to be anywhere. My dad is fond of saying I got five boys, four turned out really good and I got one in Congress.

As you know, with the start of a new Congress will bring new additions to the Intelligence Committee. The Democrats will add three new members to their roster and we will add one. I have to say, Intel is a great committee and I always have members coming up to me and asking how they can secure a spot. One particular new member from Virginia is especially eager to join the ranks. You may have heard of him, former Marine and now Congressman Nicholas Brody? While I appreciate his credentials, there is just something about that guy….

Anybody watch Homeland? Bad Intelligence Community joke I guess.

Well the bottom line is our economy is under assault every day by countries like China and we are losing the fight. Dutch and I believe the least we can do is take classified anonymous threat information from the government and share it with the private sector so they can protect their networks.

Recent cases have just highlighted the urgency of this problem. Major American banks have reported massive denial of service attacks for months. The Saudi Arabian oil company, Saudi Aramco reported that some 30,000 computers were physically destroyed in a cyber attack. And major newspapers are under assault from Chinese hackers for daring to publish stories critical of the Communist Chinese government.

You know there is a long history over thousands of years of countries spying on each other to better understand each other's plans, intentions and capabilities.

It would, of course, be odd for the Chairman of the Intelligence Committee to lament these efforts. These espionage activities over the years, however, have largely been focused on collecting intelligence on foreign governments and militaries, not on brazen and wide-scale theft of intellectual property from foreign commercial competitors as is currently being conducted by China. The worst might be that they are taking this intellectual property and then using to artificially compete with American business in the global marketplace. In one example, one manufacturer in the U.S. spent $1 billion and ten years on research and development on a product and overnight lost everything to a Chinese hacker. So the Chinese company that the hacker will hand the IP off to, now has a ten year, $1 billion head start. No risk, no cost.

I am not aware of a precedent in history for such a massive and sustained intelligence effort by a government to blatantly steal commercial data and intellectual property. I believe it is the largest transfer of wealth potential in the history of the world.

China's cyber-espionage has reached an intolerable level and we must act to help to ensure that American companies have all the information

they need to defend their networks. We must do this to protect America's economy, our jobs and literally our way of life which is under siege by the Chinese.

Dutch and I worked hand in hand to pass an 18 page bill, which passed on the House floor with a bipartisan vote last year. Unfortunately the Senate was unable to reach a compromise on cyber security and the bill died in the Senate. This issue is too important to let languish a minute longer. Our Committee is taking action to get the process moving in the House, as we are introducing the bill today and we intend to pass a bill to the out of committee by next month. We need the Senate to act as well.

Going forward it is my hope that we can forge an agreement in the Senate with Senators Feinstein and Chambliss as well as Senators Carper and Coburn to move forward on a very narrow, very targeted information sharing bill and get it to the President later this year.

Thanks being interested in this important issue and thanks for having me here today.

We will now kick it over to Ranking Member Ruppersberger.