

SAMPLE SPEECH

I appreciate the opportunity to be with you here today. NARUC has been instrumental in the success of my cyber information sharing bill and for that I thank you.

As you know, with the start of a new Congress will come new additions to the Intelligence Committee. The Democrats will add three new members to their roster and we will add one new member. 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 HPSCI ranks. You may have heard of him, Congressman Nicholas Brody? While I appreciate his credentials there is just something about that guy....

American companies are under attack and need our help, but they need information not regulation.

There is a rich history over the centuries of governments and militaries conducting espionage on each other to better understand each other's plans, intentions and capabilities.

It would, of course, be odd for the Chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence 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. 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.

China's economic espionage 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.

I worked hand-in-hand with the Ranking Democrat—Dutch Ruppersberger—on our cyber sharing legislation, which is virtually unheard of these days. Our concise bill passed the House floor by a vote of 248-168.

Unfortunately the Senate was unable to reach a compromise and the legislation failed on the floor last month. I remain optimistic that the Senate will act on legislation before we adjourn. Our team continues to push and work with them on language. This issue is too important to let languish a minute longer. We need the Senate to act.

It is no secret that the White House is looking to release an Executive Order regulating critical infrastructure and cybersecurity. An Order

would not only create new regulations on the private sector but it would also create another interagency council, and thus another layer of bureaucracy, directed by the Department of Homeland Security.

An Executive Order is window dressing. A distraction. From what I understand a lot of energy is being expended on this Order but NO energy is being expended on creating a bi-partisan solution with Congress.

Technology is ever changing and expanding. We have to be mindful that any regulation impacting the security of our networks needs to stand the test of time.

There is no doubt in my mind that the brightest minds, the problem solvers, are in private industry. I want to ensure that the government continues to do what it does best which is collect information and I want to empower private business to do what it does best: innovate.