

THE CONSTITUTION PROJECT



Safeguarding Liberty, Justice & the Rule of Law

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The Constitution Project Renews Opposition to CISPA

Watchdog Group Cites Rules Committee Decision to Block Privacy Amendments

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- The Constitution Project (TCP) has worked in good faith with the House Intelligence Committee staff to strengthen civil liberties protections in HR 3523, the Cyber Intelligence Sharing and Protection Act (CISPA). In a statement released earlier today, we identified four critical civil liberties issues that are not addressed by the HPSCI-supported amendments to the legislation, namely:

- To ensure that civilian agencies, and not components of the Defense Department like the NSA, are the recipients of cyber threat information submitted to the government by private companies;
- To require that before they share private data with the government, companies make "reasonable efforts" to remove information that can be used to identify specific individuals;
- To require the government to develop policies and procedures to minimize the impact of the program on privacy and civil liberties; and
- To prohibit the government from using the private information shared with it for national security purposes unrelated to cybersecurity, and thereby ensure that this program does not become a broad information collection tool for the government.

Unfortunately, the Rules Committee acted this evening to block consideration of any amendments that would have addressed these four issues.

In our earlier statement, we had noted that "[b]ased upon the good faith efforts of Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Ruppertsberger resulting in the inclusion of the HPSCI-supported amendments, and **based on the understanding that Members of the House will have an opportunity to vote on further amendments to address our remaining civil liberties concerns,**" TCP would not actively oppose the process as the bill moved forward through the House.

Now that the Rules Committee has prevented any opportunity for the House to vote on amendments to address our remaining civil liberties concerns, TCP has no choice but to renew its opposition to the enactment of CISPA. **We are, therefore, urging Members of the House to take a stand in favor of robust protections for privacy and civil liberties and VOTE "NO" ON CISPA.**

Created out of the belief that we must cast aside the labels that divide us in order to keep our democracy strong, The Constitution Project (TCP) brings together policy experts and legal practitioners from across the political spectrum to foster consensus-based solutions to the most difficult constitutional challenges of our time. TCP seeks to reform the nation's broken criminal justice system and to strengthen the rule of law through scholarship, advocacy, policy reform and public education initiatives. Established in 1997, TCP is based in Washington, D.C.



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