

# THE CONSTITUTION PROJECT



*Safeguarding Liberty, Justice & the Rule of Law*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE - July 19, 2012

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## TCP Applauds Changes in Senate Cybersecurity Bill

WASHINGTON, D.C. -- Sharon Bradford Franklin, senior policy counsel at The Constitution Project (TCP), offered the following comment on the new version of the Cybersecurity Act introduced today in the Senate:

"The Constitution Project welcomes the significant improvements to the information sharing provisions of the Cybersecurity Act introduced today. These changes will be critical to ensuring that the bill will not only provide for cybersecurity, but also protect privacy and civil liberties.

"These new and revised provisions go a long way toward alleviating our concerns about the threats the cybersecurity legislation posed to our fundamental constitutional rights. The information-sharing provisions of this bill are now not only better than earlier versions offered in the Senate, but are vastly superior to those in the Cyber Intelligence Sharing and Protection Act (CISPA) passed earlier this year in the House.

"The Constitution Project will be urging bipartisan support for these changes, and will vigorously resist any efforts to water down these privacy protections."

In particular, TCP noted several new provisions that make substantial improvements over earlier versions of the bill and provide essential privacy safeguards by:

- requiring that information flowing into the government from the private sector will go to civilian and not military agencies;
- limiting the information that companies can share with the federal government to information that is necessary to describe cybersecurity threat indicators;
- ensuring that information shared for cybersecurity reasons cannot be used for unrelated law enforcement or other purposes; and
- improving oversight by requiring Inspector General audits every year.

In January, TCP released a [comprehensive report](#) on the constitutional implications of cybersecurity information sharing programs.

The legislation is expected to come to the Senate floor for debate next week.

### [About The Constitution Project](#)

*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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