



Office of the City Clerk

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Legislation Text

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RESOLUTION

WHEREAS, publicly announced cyberattacks against companies such as Target, Neiman Marcus, Michaels, Yahoo! Mail, eBay, UPS, Home Depot, Apple iCloud, and J.P. Morgan Chase have highlighted the need for heightened cybersecurity; and

WHEREAS, last January, Target announced that the contact information of 70 million individuals was taken during a December 2013 breach in which cybercriminals also stole information from 40 million customer credit and debit cards; and

WHEREAS, last September, Home Depot announced that cybercriminals used malware to compromise the credit card information for roughly 56 million shoppers in its 2,000 U.S. and Canadian outlets; and

WHEREAS, the increases in the rate and severity of cyberattacks on American companies demonstrates the threat to U.S. commerce; and

WHEREAS, in 2013, cybercrime reportedly cost U.S. companies and individuals \$38 billion; and

WHEREAS, North Korea recently organized a cyberattack targeting Sony Pictures Entertainment and made unacceptable threats of violence against movie theatres and moviegoers worldwide; and

WHEREAS, the cyberattack debilitated Sony computers and led to Sony temporarily canceling the release of "The Interview," a movie that depicts the assassination of the North Korean leader, Kim Jong-un; and

WHEREAS, North Korea's cyberattack was an attack on our freedom of expression and way of life; and

WHEREAS, between 2009 and 2011, there was a 17-fold increase in computer attacks on American infrastructure, initiated by criminal gangs, hackers and other nations; and

WHEREAS, cyberattacks on utilities, military defense systems, water treatment plants, and other critical infrastructure are a direct threat to our national security; and

WHEREAS, President Obama has said that cyberattacks are one of the most serious challenges we face as a nation and America's economic prosperity in the 21st century will depend on cybersecurity; and

WHEREAS, in his 2015 State of the Union address, President Obama stated, "No foreign nation, no hacker, should be able to shut down our networks, steal our trade secrets, or invade the privacy of American families, especially our kids";

WHEREAS, the only way to counteract cyberattacks is to be proactive and neither the private sector nor the government can successfully defend against cyberattacks alone; and

WHEREAS, President Obama has called on Congress to adopt legislation that would promote the sharing of cybersecurity information between the government and private companies, bolster law enforcement officials' ability to investigate and prosecute cybercriminals, and mandate hacked companies to disclose breaches to employees and customers who may be affected; and

WHEREAS, the City of Chicago, home to many of the world's largest corporations, including many technology firms, has the capacity to provide valuable insight to collectively bolster cybersecurity citywide; NOW THEREFORE

BE IT RESOLVED, that the City of Chicago does hereby urge its Congressional delegation to support federal legislation that would promote the sharing of cybersecurity information between the government and private companies, bolster law enforcement officials' ability to investigate and prosecute cybercriminals, and mandate hacked companies to disclose breaches to employees and customers who may be affected; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the City Council of the City of Chicago does hereby request the Chief Information Officer of the Department of Innovation and Technology, and the Executive Director of the Office of Emergency Management and Communications, or their designees, to appear before the Committee on Economic, Capital and Technology Development at a hearing discussing the ways in which the City can facilitate cooperation between the public and private sectors in sharing information about cybersecurity threats, incident response, and technical assistance.

