

S 1157

PATCH Act of 2017

Congress: 115 (2017–2019, Ended)

Chamber: Senate

Policy Area: Government Operations and Politics

Introduced: May 17, 2017

Current Status: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.

Latest Action: Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs. (May 17, 2017)

Official Text: <https://www.congress.gov/bill/115th-congress/senate-bill/1157>

Sponsor

Name: Sen. Schatz, Brian [D-HI]

Party: Democratic • **State:** HI • **Chamber:** Senate

Cosponsors (3 total)

Cosponsor	Party / State	Role	Date Joined
Sen. Gardner, Cory [R-CO]	R · CO		May 17, 2017
Sen. Johnson, Ron [R-WI]	R · WI		May 17, 2017
Sen. Klobuchar, Amy [D-MN]	D · MN		Oct 2, 2017

Committee Activity

Committee	Chamber	Activity	Date
Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee	Senate	Referred To	May 17, 2017

Subjects & Policy Tags

Policy Area:

Government Operations and Politics

Related Bills

No related bills are listed.

Protecting Our Ability to Counter Hacking Act of 2017 or the PATCH Act of 2017

This bill establishes the Vulnerability Equities Review Board to establish and make available to the public policies on matters relating to whether, when, how, to whom, and to what degree information about a vulnerability in a technology, product, system, service, or application that is not publicly known should be shared or released by the government to a non-federal entity. The board must submit to Congress and the President a draft of such policies, along with a description of challenges or impediments requiring legislative or administrative action.

Each federal agency shall, upon obtaining information about such a vulnerability, subject such information to a process established by the board for sharing or releasing the information. Process considerations shall include:

- which technologies, products, systems, services, or applications are subject to the vulnerability;
- the potential risks of leaving the vulnerability unpatched or unmitigated;
- the likelihood that a non-federal entity will discover the vulnerability; and
- whether the vulnerability can be patched or otherwise mitigated.

An agency may share or release such information to a non-federal entity without subjecting it to such process if the agency determines that the information is presumptively shareable or releasable.

If the board determines that such information should be shared with or released to the vendor that developed or maintains the technology, it shall provide the information to the Department of Homeland Security, which shall share or release the information as directed by the board.

Actions Timeline

- **May 17, 2017:** Introduced in Senate
- **May 17, 2017:** Read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.