

## HR 4782

### National Commission on Online Platforms and Homeland Security Act

**Congress:** 116 (2019–2021, Ended)

**Chamber:** House

**Policy Area:** Science, Technology, Communications

**Introduced:** Oct 22, 2019

**Current Status:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 566.

**Latest Action:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 566. (Dec 21, 2020)

**Official Text:** <https://www.congress.gov/bill/116th-congress/house-bill/4782>

## Sponsor

**Name:** Rep. Thompson, Bennie G. [D-MS-2]

**Party:** Democratic • **State:** MS • **Chamber:** House

## Cosponsors (18 total)

| Cosponsor                                   | Party / State | Role | Date Joined  |
|---|---------------|------|--------------|
| Rep. Barragan, Nanette Diaz [D-CA-44]       | D · CA        |      | Oct 22, 2019 |
| Rep. Clarke, Yvette D. [D-NY-9]             | D · NY        |      | Oct 22, 2019 |
| Rep. Cleaver, Emanuel [D-MO-5]              | D · MO        |      | Oct 22, 2019 |
| Rep. Correa, J. Luis [D-CA-46]              | D · CA        |      | Oct 22, 2019 |
| Rep. Langevin, James R. [D-RI-2]            | D · RI        |      | Oct 22, 2019 |
| Rep. Payne, Donald M., Jr. [D-NJ-10]        | D · NJ        |      | Oct 22, 2019 |
| Rep. Richmond, Cedric L. [D-LA-2]           | D · LA        |      | Oct 22, 2019 |
| Rep. Rose, Max [D-NY-11]                    | D · NY        |      | Oct 22, 2019 |
| Rep. Watson Coleman, Bonnie [D-NJ-12]       | D · NJ        |      | Oct 22, 2019 |
| Rep. Titus, Dina [D-NV-1]                   | D · NV        |      | Oct 23, 2019 |
| Rep. Taylor, Van [R-TX-3]                   | R · TX        |      | Oct 29, 2019 |
| Rep. Slotkin, Elissa [D-MI-8]               | D · MI        |      | Oct 31, 2019 |
| Rep. Torres Small, Xochitl [D-NM-2]         | D · NM        |      | Oct 31, 2019 |
| Rep. Axne, Cynthia [D-IA-3]                 | D · IA        |      | Nov 14, 2019 |
| Rep. Gonzalez, Vicente [D-TX-15]            | D · TX        |      | Nov 21, 2019 |
| Del. Norton, Eleanor Holmes [D-DC-At Large] | D · DC        |      | Jan 27, 2020 |
| Rep. Moulton, Seth [D-MA-6]                 | D · MA        |      | Feb 6, 2020  |
| Rep. Case, Ed [D-HI-1]                      | D · HI        |      | Feb 12, 2020 |

## Committee Activity

| Committee                     | Chamber | Activity    | Date         |
|-------------------------------|---------|-------------|--------------|
| Energy and Commerce Committee | House   | Referred to | Oct 23, 2019 |
| Homeland Security Committee   | House   | Reported By | Dec 22, 2020 |

## Subjects & Policy Tags

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### Policy Area:

Science, Technology, Communications

### Related Bills

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No related bills are listed.

### Summary (as of Dec 21, 2020)

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#### National Commission on Online Platforms and Homeland Security Act

This bill establishes the National Commission on Online Platforms and Homeland Security to address content on online and social media platforms that implicates national security concerns.

Specifically, the commission shall identify, examine, and report on the ways online platforms have been used in furtherance or support of targeted violence or covert foreign state influence campaigns and how addressing such uses impacts users' free speech, privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties. Consistent with these purposes, the commission must analyze (1) online platforms' responses to such usage; (2) the impacts of algorithms and automated decision-making systems; and (3) the extent to which online platforms have transparent, consistent, and equitable policies and procedures to address violations of platform rules.

The commission must then develop recommendations for how online platforms could address improper use through methods that are transparent and accountable while continuing to promote free speech and innovation on the internet and preserving individual privacy and civil rights.

Additionally, the Department of Homeland Security must (1) research whether any connection exists between the use of online platforms and targeted violence; and (2) develop voluntary approaches that could be adopted by online platforms to address any correlations found while still preserving the individual privacy, civil rights, and civil liberties of users.

### Actions Timeline

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- **Dec 21, 2020:** Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Homeland Security. H. Rept. 116-683, Part I.
- **Dec 21, 2020:** Committee on Energy and Commerce discharged.
- **Dec 21, 2020:** Placed on the Union Calendar, Calendar No. 566.
- **Oct 23, 2019:** Committee Consideration and Mark-up Session Held.
- **Oct 23, 2019:** Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Unanimous Consent.
- **Oct 23, 2019:** Referred to the Subcommittee on Communications and Technology.
- **Oct 22, 2019:** Introduced in House
- **Oct 22, 2019:** Referred to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.