

**STATEMENT OF  
THE HONORABLE VERNON J. EHLERS  
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COMMITTEE ON SCIENCE AND TECHNOLOGY  
U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES**

*Cyber Security R&D*

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2318 Rayburn House Office Building

Cyber security is of great concern to both the federal government and private industry. This is a timely hearing, since a little over a month ago the House passed the measure reauthorizing the Networking and Information Technology Research and Development Act of 2009 (NITRD). As you know, the NITRD program is responsible for the coordination of all the unclassified federal research and development efforts in cyber security. However, cyber security efforts are only a small part of the overall NITRD mission and I am glad that this hearing will focus special attention on this subject.

As we become more dependent on virtual information and services, security becomes more and more challenging to maintain. Fostering trust between the public and private sector will allow for the type of research partnerships necessary to keep our information secure, and exchanging information between stakeholders is critical. I am also particularly interested in learning how we are supporting the education and training of students in this rapidly changing field, and whether the current mechanisms are adequate to ensure our national cyber security interests.

I look forward to learning from our witnesses today about their experiences in cyber security research, development and education, and how we can strengthen our federal efforts in this area. Thank you for your attendance.