

Member Day Testimony to the House Committee on Oversight and Reform

Rep. Robin Kelly (D-IL)

**Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for holding this Member Day
hearing.**

**Last Congress, the IT Subcommittee held a hearing on
Internet of Things devices following the October 2016
Distributed Denial of Service attack on Domain Name Service
provider Dyn shut down Internet access for millions on the
East Coast. This attack was carried out by a botnet. In this
case, the botnet was composed of hundreds of thousands of
compromised, unsecured IoT devices. Compromised devices
like these can become access points to other sensitive data
on federal systems. As such, there is a pressing need for the
federal government to ensure its IoT devices are secure.**

**That's why I introduced H.R. 1668, the Internet of Things
Cybersecurity Improvement Act of 2019. This bipartisan bill
will build upon NIST's work with their 8228 guidance and
directs NIST to address, at minimum, secure development,
identity management, patching, and configuration
management for IoT devices. Then, OMB would craft
government-wide guidelines for agencies that are consistent
with NIST's recommendations. Building upon cyber best
practices, NIST, in consultation with cybersecurity
researchers and private-industry experts, will create a
vulnerability disclosure program to ensure that agencies are
able to patch devices when vulnerabilities are discovered.**

**Using the government's procurement power, it is my hope
that this bill will raise awareness of unsecure devices and
move device manufacturers to incorporate security when**

they are designing products. With the number of IoT devices expected to grow exponentially, we cannot allow more unsecure devices to flood the market and potentially be purchased by the federal government.

This is a commonsense bill that has strong support from outside organizations like CTIA, BSA, Rapid 7, Symantec, and Cloudflare. Government Operations Subcommittee Chairman Connolly and Ranking Member Meadows are both original cosponsors, and we currently have the support of 19 total cosponsors. It is my hope that this bill will quickly move through Committee to the House floor and become Law.