

114TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 805

To prohibit the National Telecommunications and Information Administration from relinquishing responsibility over the Internet domain name system until the Comptroller General of the United States submits to Congress a report on the role of the NTIA with respect to such system.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 5, 2015

Mr. SHIMKUS (for himself, Mr. BARTON, Mr. CRAMER, Mrs. ELLMERS, Mr. LANCE, Mr. MCKINLEY, Mr. FARENTHOLD, Mr. NUGENT, Mr. BUCSHON, Mr. KLINE, Mr. WALDEN, Mr. ROKITA, Mr. LATTI, and Mr. LONG) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce

A BILL

To prohibit the National Telecommunications and Information Administration from relinquishing responsibility over the Internet domain name system until the Comptroller General of the United States submits to Congress a report on the role of the NTIA with respect to such system.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Domain Openness
3 Through Continued Oversight Matters Act of 2015” or
4 the “DOTCOM Act of 2015”.

5 **SEC. 2. NTIA RETENTION OF DNS RESPONSIBILITIES PEND-**
6 **ING GAO REPORT.**

7 (a) **RETENTION OF RESPONSIBILITIES.**—Until the
8 Comptroller General of the United States submits the re-
9 port required by subsection (b), the Assistant Secretary
10 of Commerce for Communications and Information may
11 not relinquish or agree to any proposal relating to the re-
12 linquishment of the responsibility of the National Tele-
13 communications and Information Administration (in this
14 section referred to as the “NTIA”) over Internet domain
15 name system functions, including responsibility with re-
16 spect to the authoritative root zone file, the Internet As-
17 signed Numbers Authority functions, and related root
18 zone management functions.

19 (b) **REPORT.**—Not later than 1 year after the date
20 on which the NTIA receives a proposal relating to the re-
21 linquishment of the responsibility of the NTIA over Inter-
22 net domain name system functions that was developed in
23 a process convened by the Internet Corporation for As-
24 signed Names and Numbers at the request of the NTIA,
25 the Comptroller General of the United States shall submit
26 to Congress a report on the role of the NTIA with respect

1 to the Internet domain name system. Such report shall
2 include—

3 (1) a discussion and analysis of—

4 (A) the advantages and disadvantages of
5 relinquishment of the responsibility of the
6 NTIA over Internet domain name system func-
7 tions, including responsibility with respect to
8 the authoritative root zone file, the Internet As-
9 signed Numbers Authority functions, and re-
10 lated root zone management functions;

11 (B) any principles or criteria that the
12 NTIA sets for proposals for such relinquis-
13 hment;

14 (C) each proposal received by the NTIA
15 for such relinquishment;

16 (D) the processes used by the NTIA and
17 any other Federal agencies for evaluating such
18 proposals;

19 (E) any national security concerns raised
20 by such relinquishment; and

21 (F) any concerns raised by such relinquis-
22 hment with respect to the security of the Inter-
23 net domain name system or the security of
24 other information networks and systems; and

1 (2) a definition of the term “multistakeholder
2 model”, as used by the NTLA with respect to Inter-
3 net policymaking and governance, and definitions of
4 any other terms necessary to understand the matters
5 covered by the report.

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