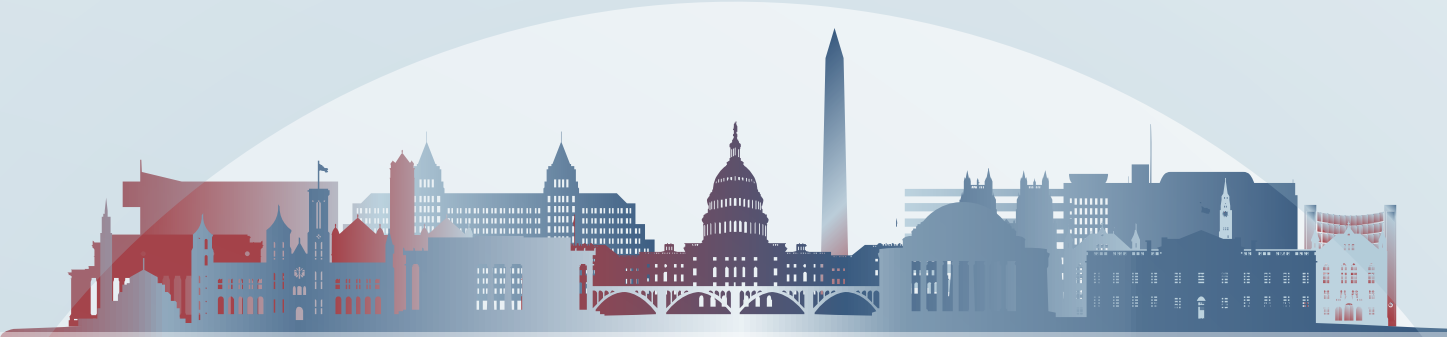




2026 MIDTERM ELECTION OUTLOOK: CYBERSECURITY



ANALYSIS BY

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OVERVIEW:

Most Durable Bipartisan Lanes:

- Cyber workforce development
- Critical infrastructure protection
- State and local cyber capacity
- Information sharing authorities

More Politically Sensitive Areas:

- CISA authorities and mission scope
- Federal cyber regulatory authority
- Online content moderation spillover into cyber debates

Best Framing for Engagement:

- National security
- China cyber threat environment
- Critical infrastructure resilience
- Public-private partnership

ISSUES MOST LIKELY TO MOVE:

- **Cyber information sharing authorities** — reauthorization/modernization of the Cybersecurity Information Sharing Act (CISA 2015) remains a recurring issue, with bipartisan support for preserving liability protections tied to threat information sharing.
- **Federal contractor and supply chain cybersecurity** — continued momentum around stronger vulnerability disclosure requirements and growing congressional attention to software supply chain risk.
- **CIRCIA implementation** (Cyber Incident Reporting for Critical Infrastructure Act) — oversight of rulemaking and reporting requirements affecting critical infrastructure sectors.



IF THE HOUSE FLIPS

House committees increase oversight of cyber implementation across DHS, CISA, and federal civilian networks.

Democratic leadership prioritizes stability of federal cyber programs and workforce development.

Hearings likely focus on critical infrastructure resilience, ransomware response, and federal cyber modernization.

IMPLICATIONS

- More attention on public-private partnership and cyber workforce shortages.
- Lower appetite for major new regulatory frameworks affecting industry.
- Oversight pressure on agencies implementing incident reporting and cyber modernization programs.



IF BOTH CHAMBERS FLIP

Most favorable environment for bipartisan cyber legislation.

Congress likely prioritizes reauthorizing existing cyber authorities and stabilizing federal cyber programs.

Committees focus on practical implementation issues rather than institutional fights.

IMPLICATIONS

- Increased likelihood of bipartisan cyber packages tied to national security and infrastructure resilience.
- Legislative activity likely centered on workforce, information sharing, and state/local capacity.
- Greater stability for CISA authorities and federal civilian cyber programs.



IF NEITHER FLIPS

Cyber policy framed primarily through national security and China competition.

Continued scrutiny of CISA's authorities and role in the federal cyber ecosystem.

Greater emphasis on offensive cyber capabilities, deterrence, and defense industrial base security.

IMPLICATIONS

- Legislative activity likely tied to China cyber threats, supply chain security, and defense cyber capabilities.
- Less appetite for expanding federal cyber regulatory authorities.
- Oversight hearings targeting federal cyber agencies and contractor security practices.

RIISING MEMBERS TO WATCH



REP. VINCE FONG
R-CA

Member, House Homeland Security Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Protection Subcommittee.

Focus: Critical infrastructure cybersecurity, CISA, state and local cyber resilience, and emerging tech threats, especially for utilities, rural communities, and from China.

Watch factor: A newer member with a fast-rising cyber profile; Ogles' departure opens the door for Fong to take a bigger role in House Republican cyber policy and on the subcommittee.



SENATOR ERIC SCHMITT
R-MO

Member, Senate Armed Services Committee (Subcommittee on Cybersecurity).

Focus: cyber operations, China-linked threats, and technology competition, approached through a defense and deterrence framework.

Watch factor: an increasingly visible voice among Senate Republicans on technology and national security issues.



SENATOR JACKY ROSEN
D-NV

Ranking Member, Senate Armed Services Subcommittee on Cybersecurity; former computer programmer.

Focus: defense cybersecurity, critical infrastructure protection, and cyber workforce development.

Watch factor: would chair the subcommittee if the Senate flips.



REP. BENNIE THOMPSON
D-MS

Ranking Member, House Homeland Security Committee.

Focus: federal cyber resilience and public-private partnership; one of the more vocal Democratic voices on cyber threats tied to China and national security.

Watch factor: would chair the full committee if the House flips.

Rising Staff to Watch



MOIRA BERGIN

Staff Director (D), House Homeland Subcommittee on Cybersecurity. Frustrated by limited visibility into recent CISA policy updates. If Democrats regain the majority, expects to prioritize a CISA force assessment and is seeking legislative concepts for Democratic control, especially on strengthening CISA oversight

BOTTOM LINE

Cybersecurity remains one of the most consistently bipartisan technology issues in Congress. However, the emphasis shifts depending on control. A GOP hold will focus more heavily on China threats, regulatory restraint, and scrutiny of federal cyber agencies. A House flip or full Democratic control would likely emphasize resilience, CISA stability, and state/local cyber. **Across scenarios, core cyber authorities, incident reporting implementation, and federal contractor security remain the most likely legislative lanes.**

MONUMENT'S CYBERSECURITY PRACTICE AREA

Cybersecurity policy is no longer a niche issue. Critical infrastructure mandates, evolving agency guidance, and congressional scrutiny now touch nearly every major company and sector. The organizations that fare best are the ones that built real credibility with the policymakers writing the rules before a crisis forced their hand.

We shape federal cyber policy, build and manage coalitions around key security issues, and guide clients through Washington's cyber and technology landscape, from incident reporting to critical infrastructure protection.

This analysis was crafted by Monument Advocacy's Cybersecurity policy experts.

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