

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

April 17, 2025

Bridget Bean
Executive Director
Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security
Agency
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Arlington, VA 20598-0630

Mona Harrington
Assistant Director for the National Risk
Management Center
Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security
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1110 N. Glebe Road
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Dear Ms. Bean and Ms. Harrington:

We are writing for a third time seeking urgent updates on the status of election-related work at the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA), including for a copy of CISA's review of its election security work.

The agency's March 7 response to our February 13 and March 4 letters offered little insight into the status of election security work at CISA, except for confirmation that CISA has paused all election security-focused activities pending this review and had already terminated federal funding in support of the Election Infrastructure Information Sharing and Analysis Center (EI-ISAC). Following that March 7 response, House and Senate committee staff also made a specific document request in writing for CISA's review of its election security activities.

Recent reporting indicates that this review conducted by CISA of all election security related funding, products, services, and positions was completed in early March and has been shared with officials at the Department of Homeland Security.¹ Other reports indicate that CISA is preparing to cut nearly one-third of its workforce, or 1,300 people, following the deployment of DOGE staff to the agency—a potentially devastating blow to election security.² Funding cuts to ISACs mean that help for state and local election administrators is “being systematically dismantled.”³

These staff and funding cuts raise grave concerns about the security and integrity of upcoming elections, where states and localities with limited budgets must protect their systems against foreign nation-states. Yet, during this time, we have received no additional updates or information from CISA about the status of this review.

Now, more than one month after the deadline set out in our March 4 letter, we again request a copy of CISA's review, a substantive response to both letters, and a briefing on the findings of

¹ Maggie Miller, *The Trump admin cut election security funds. Now officials fear future elections may be 'less secure.'* POLITICO (March 31, 2025). <https://www.politico.com/news/2025/03/31/trump-admin-cut-election-security-funds-00258787>.

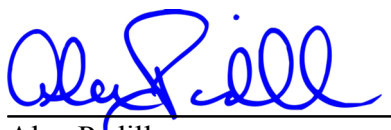
² Margaret Brennan, Nicole Sganga, and Andres Triay, *Cybersecurity agency that oversees election infrastructure to face significant cuts, sources say*, CBS NEWS (April 4, 2025). <https://www.cbsnews.com/news/cisa-cybersecurity-election-infrastructure-face-significant-cuts-sources-say/>.

³ Bob Ortega, *Trump is dismantling election security networks. State officials are alarmed*, CNN (April 9, 2025), <https://www.cnn.com/2025/04/09/politics/election-security-systems-trump-invs/index.html>.

the agency's assessment, including a discussion of any proposed changes occurring at the agency and an explanation of the rationale behind such changes.

The Department and CISA have a responsibility to be transparent and responsive to the House and Senate Committees with jurisdiction over federal elections regarding proposed changes that threaten election integrity. To that end, we expect a comprehensive response, including the final or latest copy of CISA's review, no later than Friday, May 2.

Sincerely,



Alex Padilla
United States Senator
Ranking Member, Committee
on Rules and Administration



Joseph D. Morelle
Member of Congress
Ranking Member, Committee
on House Administration