OPENING STATEMENT
Ranking Member Eddie Bernice Johnson (D-TX)

House Committee on Science, Space, and Technology
Subcommittee on Research and Technology
Subcommittee on Oversight
*"Cyber Security: What the Federal Government Can Learn from
the Private Sector"*
January 8, 2016

Thank you Chairwoman Comstock, Chairman Loudermilk, and Ranking Members Lipinski and Beyer for holding this hearing. This is such an important topic, and one on which our Committee has played an important role. We've developed and enacted some very good bipartisan cybersecurity legislation in this Committee, but our work continues.

It remains an ongoing challenge for us to secure cyberspace for the benefit of our national security and economy, as well as ensuring individual security and privacy. As my colleagues have already noted, protecting our massive stores of information of all types will continue to require the collaborative efforts of the private sector, government, researchers, and the general public. No government agency, no business, and no individual is truly immune from these threats.

Today we will hear from some experts in the private sector about best practices and technologies being implemented by companies. I'm interested to hear about what's being learned and implemented in the private sector that may be useful for government agencies as well. And I'm particularly interested to hear about collaborations between the private sector and our government agencies, on both the research and technology side, and in the development of standards and protocols that will help strengthen the security of all information systems. It is clear that learning and sharing of expertise is a two-way street between the public and private sectors.

I want to thank the witnesses for being here this morning. I look forward to the testimony and discussion, and I yield back.