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Wednesday, September 1, 2010

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Sneaky Senate Trying To Slip Internet Kill Switch Past Us

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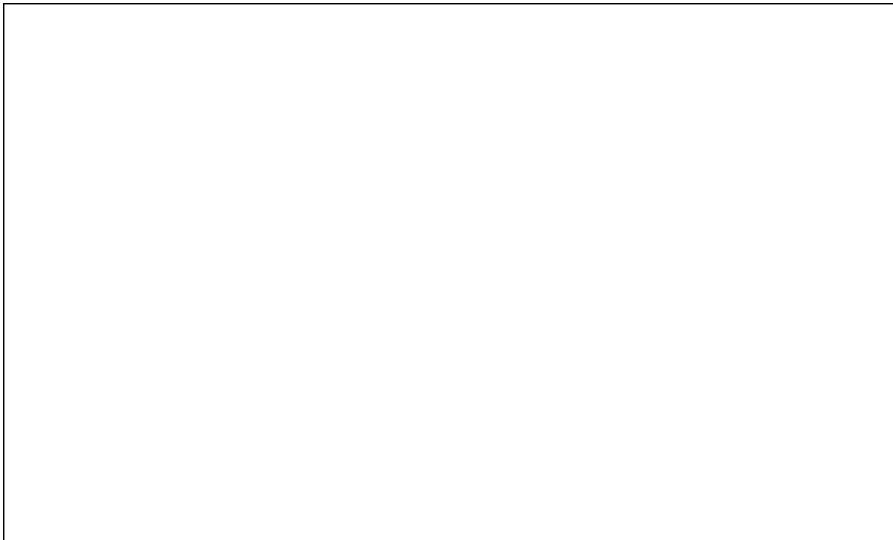
Sensing Senators don't have the stomach to try and pass a stand-alone bill in broad daylight that would give the President the power to shut down the Internet in a national emergency, the Senate is considering attaching the Internet Kill Switch bill as a rider to other legislation that would have bi-partisan support.

"It's hard to get a measure like cybersecurity legislation passed on its own," Senator Thomas Carper (D-Del.) told GovInfoSecurity.com. Carper is chairman of the Senate subcommittee with cybersecurity oversight.

Under instructions from Senate Majority Leader Harry Reid (D-Nev.), Senators Joe Lieberman (I-Conn.) and Jay Rockefeller (D-W.Va.) are working to combine their separate bills into one that can be attached to another piece of legislation, such as the Defense Authorization Act.

While proponents say an Internet Kill Switch is needed to protect the nation's power, water and banking grids, what it really is is a way to control the flow of information. Experts have said that the nation's power and water grids are not connected directly to the Internet.

Lieberman let slip his real thoughts on the Internet Kill Switch in an interview with CNN's Candy Crowley when he said, "Right now China — the government — can disconnect parts of its Internet in a case of war. We need to have the ability to do that, too."



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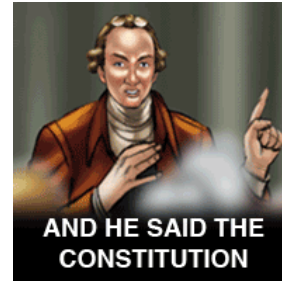
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