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### **Senate Panel Passes Intelligence Bill**

The Security Committee of the US Senate on June 26, 2018, ratified a bill that approves financing the national intelligence institutions. The proposed law provides new requirements to restructure the old system of security clearance and deal with aggression from other nations such as China and Russia. The bill will now be presented on the floor of the Senate after it garnered unanimous vote at the committee stage (Riechmann 1).

Moreover, the bill intends to deal with cases of election manipulation. Therefore, it has provided measures to strengthen the security of votes and control antagonists' interference (The Economic Times 1). For this reason, the reforms contained in the proposed legislation will be a key milestone in discouraging insider threats, safeguard confidential data and guarantee the intelligence society has an agile and capable human resource. For instance, the bill seeks to promote modernization of obsolete security clearance procedure and minimize a backlog of security clearance of more than 700,000 individuals (Riechmann 1). Furthermore, it aims to nurture innovation in the intelligence agencies in its operations.



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My perspective of this bill is that it is essential in ensuring that interference of the US elections is controlled. The US Presidential election in 2016 was marred by a foreign pursuit to impede the democratic policies of the country (Riechmann 1). When an external agency inhibits or influences the outcomes of the US elections, it significantly curtails the will of the people. Reports emerged that a Russian technology expert played a part in interfering with these elections. For this reason, the security agency should deal firmly with the threat emanating from adversaries hence the need to strengthen election security. Adequate financing of our intelligence institutions is one of the vital steps to secure and credible elections.

Work Cited

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