



Jon's Keeping America Safe by Preventing Insider Threats

In response to a growing number of hacks and security breaches, Senator Tester has led the effort to close security loopholes and prevent future insider threats...

June, 2013

Jon chaired the "Safeguarding Our Nation's Secrets: Examining the Security Clearance Process" hearing which examined the government's security clearance background investigation process and highlighted opportunities for reform.

Security Clearance Oversight and Reform Enhancement (SCORE) Act

Jon wrote and passed the SCORE Act, which increases oversight of the security clearance process by making more resources available to investigate cases where the integrity of a background check may have been compromised.

Security Clearance Task Force

Jon successfully included an amendment in the 2014 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) to require different federal agencies to work together to improve the security clearance process. Jon then integrated the group's proposals into the 2016 NDAA, requiring the Defense Department to continuously evaluate folks with clearances and develop security standards for secure facilities.

Review of Current Clearance Rules

Jon sponsored S.1569, which mandates a review of the Senate's current rules prohibiting a senator's personal staff from being eligible for a Top Secret clearance with access to sensitive compartmented information. Currently, only U.S. Senate Committee staff are eligible for a clearance with that level of access. This effort is supported by Senator Vitter (R-LA) and the American Civil Liberties Union (ACLU).

Security Clearance Accountability, Reform, and Enhancement (SCARE) Act

Jon authored the SCARE Act, which prohibits federal contractors and employees who have compromised the integrity of a background investigation from performing future background investigations. The bill passed the Senate Homeland Security Committee in May 2015.

November, 2015

Jon called on the Senate Homeland Security Committee to assess vulnerabilities in the security clearance background check process that were revealed in the 60 Minutes report that aired on November 8, 2015.

Jon urged the Office of Personnel Management (OPM) to address the backlog of background investigations for national security personnel while protecting the integrity of investigations.

July, 2015

After one of the largest breaches of government data in US history was discovered by the OPM in June, Jon directed the OPM to evaluate and identify any other potential vulnerabilities that could leave background check information exposed.

U.S. SENATOR FOR MONTANA

JON TESTER