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Rep. Dana ROHRABACHER

<https://www.c-span.org/video/?431096-1/us-house-approves-national-defense-authorization-act-34481&start=15746>

Cryptocurrency comments on 7/14/2017:

4:24:20 <https://www.c-span.org/video/?431096-1/us-house-approves-national-defense-authorization-act-34481&start=15746>

I AM THE CHAIRMAN AS I MENTIONED OF THE SUBCOMMITTEE ON EUROPE EUR ASIAN and EMERGING THREATS AND I'M A MEMBER OF THE SCIENCE, SPACE AND TECHNOLOGY COMMITTEE AND I'M here TO DISCUSS EMERGING TECHNOLOGY THAT IS UNLEASHING NEW ECONOMIC DYNAMIC BUT IT COULD ALSO BE NEGATIVELY IMPACTING ON OUR NATIONAL SECURITY.

I HAVE LONG CONSIDERED MYSELF A PROPONENT OF FREEDOM INSTEAD OF GOVERNMENT CONTROLS. I HAVE TRUSTED FREE PEOPLE AND FREE MARKETS WITH OPTIMISM THAT TECHNOLOGY AND INNOVATION WOULD DEAL WITH the PERPLEXING CHALLENGES TO OUR SECURITY AND our PROSPERITY. IN RECENT YEARS, ONE OF THE MORE EXCITING INNOVATIONS HELPING RESHAPE THE WAY WE LIVE IS



THE introduction OF DIGITAL CURRENCY HERE [in the United States] AND GLOBALLY.

THANKS TO THIS LEAP IN TECHNOLOGY, WE ARE CHANGING -- YOU KNOW, TIMES ARE CHANGING RIGHT BEFORE OUR EYES. AMERICANS HAVE NEW WAYS OF FIGHTING INFLATION AND HANDLING THEIR PERSONAL BUSINESS OBLIGATIONS. PEOPLE WITH BITCOINS LIVING IN Despotic REGIMES THROUGHOUT THE WORLD NOW HAVE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PROTECT THEIR ASSETS FROM ABUSIVE AND CORRUPT GOVERNMENTS.

INDEED, THE SECURITY OF THE BLOCK CHAIN TECHNOLOGY WILL enable A NEW WAVE OF SOCIETAL ADVANCES THAT SHOULD INVIGORATE OUR MARKETS AND IMPROVE LIVES. HOWEVER, WITH THAT POTENTIAL BENEFIT OF DIGITAL CURRENCY, THERE IS ALSO DANGER. IT empowers THE GOOD PEOPLE OF THE WORLD BUT IT COULD BE USED BY THOSE WHO HAVE GOALS THAT ARE molevelont and EVIL. RADICAL ISLAMIC TERRORISM NOW IS A HORRENDOUS THREAT THAT HANGS OVERALL OF US, ALL THE FREE PEOPLE IN THE WORLD, HERE IN THE UNITED STATES AND ELSEWHERE. LAW ENFORCEMENT THROUGHOUT THE WORLD IS NOW AWARE THAT THE BITCOIN IS AVAILABLE FOR USE FOR TERRORISTS IN ACCOMPLISHING THEIR GRUESOME MISSIONS. WHY IS IT A GOOD TOOL? IT'S ANONYMOUS. THEY CAN TRANSFER A DIGITAL CURRENCY PLATFORM WITHOUT THE USUAL SAFEGUARDS THAT THWART TERRORISTS AND CRIMINAL ACTIVITY. ANTI-MONEY LAUNDERING AND KNOW YOUR



OWN CUSTOMERS' STANDARDS HAVE WORKED to deal WITH CRIMINALS IN RECENT DECADES.

BUT NOW THAT APPROACH CAN BE TECHNOLOGICALLY UNDERMINED BY THE USE OF THE BITCOIN INSTEAD OF TRADITIONAL CURRENCY. SINCE digital CURRENCIES OFFER free ABILITY TO TRANSFER FUNDS, SOME OF OUR NEIGHBORS SUCH AS SWEDEN, THAILAND, VIETNAM AND INDIA HAVE BANNED THEIR USE. MR. SPEAKER, I DO NOT BELIEVE THAT THAT IS A NECESSARY OR PRACTICAL RESPONSE. BANNING DIGITAL CURRENCIES WILL NOT PREVENT TERRORISTS FROM USING THEM ANY MORE THAN BANNING GUNS WILL PREVENT CRIMINALS FROM USING THEM. INSTEAD OF BANNING ALL THE digital CURRENCIES BECAUSE SOME LACK STANDARDS, I BELIEVE WE SHOULD ENCOURAGE DIGITAL CURRENCIES TO IMPLEMENT FULL MONEY LAUNDERING AND KNOW YOUR CUSTOMER STANDARDS. THESE PROTECTIONS SHOULD EMPOWER OUR LAW ENFORCEMENT AND NATIONAL SECURITY PROFESSIONALS TO KEEP TERRORISTS AND CRIMINALS FROM -- TO KEEP THEIR FINANCES UNDER CONTROL WHILE PRESERVING FOR THE REST OF US THE FREEDOM TO USE DIGITAL CURRENCIES.

THUS, WITH THE PROPER TYPE OF REGULATORY LOOK AND SEEING WHAT OPTIONS ARE AVAILABLE TO US, WE CAN PREVENT TERRORISTS AND CRIMINALS FROM FINANCING THEIR OPERATIONS WITH BITCOINS, BUT STILL, THE REST OF US WILL BE FREE TO USE THESE NEW DIGITAL CURRENCIES AND ENABLE AMERICA TO KEEP THE LEAD IN THE WORLD IN THIS NEW TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCE.



IN LIGHT OF MY CHAIRMANSHIP OF EMERGING THREATS AND MY EXPERIENCE IN THE SCIENCE COMMITTEE, I LOOK FORWARD TO JOINING WITH MY COLLEAGUES ON BOTH SIDES OF THE AISLE TO ENCOURAGE ECONOMIC INNOVATION BROUGHT BY THE BITCOINS, BUT ALSO TO SEE TO IT THAT DIGITAL CURRENCIES WILL HAVE STRONG STANDARDS THAT WILL THWART THE EXPLOITATION OF THIS NEW ECONOMIC FUNCTION BY TERRORISTS AND CRIMINALS AND OTHER EVIL FORCES IN THE WORLD. SO, I LOOK FORWARD TO WORKING WITH MY COLLEAGUES. I THINK THIS IS A BIPARTISAN ISSUE. AND WON'T TRY TO MAKE IT SOUND SINISTER AT ALL, BECAUSE THIS IS SOMETHING WE CAN WORK ON. AND WE MUST KEEP AMERICA ALWAYS IN THE FOREFRONT OF TECHNOLOGICAL DEVELOPMENT. WITH EACH STEP FORWARD IN TECHNOLOGY, THERE IS A POTENTIAL HARM THAT CAN BE DONE, BUT WE NEED TO MAKE SURE THAT THAT'S TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION WHILE, AT THE SAME TIME, THAT WE DO NOT THWART AMERICANS FROM USING THE ULTIMATE TECHNOLOGIES OF THE DAY TO SECURE PROSPERITY AND SECURE FREEDOM AND TO SECURE OUR NATIONAL SECURITY WITH THESE NEW TECHNOLOGIES.

SO, WITH THAT, I WOULD YIELD BACK THE BALANCE OF MY TIME.
THANK YOU.

4:30:15

*This transcript was compiled from uncorrected Closed Captioning.