

Senator's Twitter account hacked

January 23 2012



Senator Charles Grassley speaks during a news conference in Washington, DC in 2009. Grassley's Twitter account was hacked Monday and a series of messages sent out to his more than 33,500 followers.

A US senator's Twitter account was hacked Monday and a series of messages sent out to his more than 33,500 followers.

US Senator Charles Grassley, a Republican from Iowa, had regained control of his @ChuckGrassley account by Monday afternoon and the interloper's messages had been deleted.

Earlier in the day, the hacker posted a string of messages including one critical of the senator's position on controversial legislation in the Senate intended to crack down on [Internet piracy](#) of music and movies.

"Dear Iowans, vote against ACTA, [SOPA](#), and PIPA, because this man, Chuck Grassley, wants YOUR internet censored," one of the messages

said.

Grassley was a co-sponsor of the Protect IP Act in the Senate but he backed off his support for the bill along with a number of other US legislators last week in the face an online protest led by [Google](#) and Wikipedia.

Grassley's office said his staff noticed the compromise of his Twitter account "a few minutes after the first false Tweet was posted."

"Staff immediately called [Twitter](#) to obtain access to the account so the password could be changed," his office said in a statement. "The password has been changed, and Senator Grassley controls the account again."

Grassley's office said the hacking incident was reported to the Senate Sergeant at Arms.

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