

Support H.R. 2048, the USA FREEDOM Act

Ends bulk collection and protects national security

- **Bipartisan:** The USA FREEDOM Act has overwhelming bipartisan support in both the House Judiciary and Intelligence Committees. The Senate companion is backed by senior members of both parties.
- **Protects privacy:** The bill prohibits the bulk collection of ALL records under Section 215 of the PATRIOT Act, the FISA pen register authority, and national security letter statutes.
- **Ends bulk collection at the NSA:** Americans' phone records stay in the hands of the providers.
- **Gives the government the tools it needs:** At the request of the Intelligence Community, the bill creates a new call detail records program that is closely overseen by the FISA court.

Significantly improves on earlier efforts at surveillance reform

- **Prevents government overreach:** Under a new definition of “specific selection term,” the government can only collect the information it actually needs to further an investigation. A very broad term—like “Verizon,” “area code 202,” or “Texas”—cannot be used by itself as a specific selection term.
- **Fixes national security letter gag orders:** The government may impose a nondisclosure order on the recipient of an NSL only if a senior FBI official certifies that public disclosure would pose a danger to national security or interfere with an investigation. Nondisclosure orders may be challenged at any time. The government must periodically review standing nondisclosure orders to determine if they are still necessary.
- **Provides strictly limited emergency authorities:** The bill creates new procedures for the emergency use of Section 215 and traditional FISA surveillance—but strictly limits when they may be used, and requires the government to destroy the information it collects if it gets its emergency analysis wrong.

Creates transparency and gives more information to the American people

- **Expertise at the FISA court:** The bill creates a panel of experts to provide the FISA court guidance on matters of privacy and civil liberties, communications technology, and other technical or legal matters.
- **Declassified FISA opinions:** All novel and significant opinions of the FISA court must be made public. These include all novel and significant interpretations of the definition of “specific selection term,” the concept at the heart of the ban on bulk collection.
- **Robust government reporting:** The Attorney General and the Director of National Intelligence will provide the public with detailed information about how they use these national security authorities.
- **Flexible company reporting:** Tech companies will have a range of options for describing how they respond to national security orders, all consistent with national security needs.