

June 24, 2016

Dear Senator:

The undersigned civil society organizations, companies, trade associations and academics strongly oppose a provision of the Intelligence Authorization Act for FY 2017 (Act, S. 3017) that would bar the U.S. Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board (PCLOB) from considering the privacy and civil liberties interests of anyone but citizens and lawful permanent residents of the U.S. (U.S. persons). We urge you to oppose any version of this legislation that includes this provision.

PCLOB plays an important role in protecting privacy and civil liberties in the counter-terrorism context. Congress created PCLOB in response to a recommendation of the 9/11 Commission, reinforced its independence in 2008, and has considered carefully the reform recommendations this expert body has made. In its report on Section 702 of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA), PCLOB indicated that it planned to address

International Modern Media Institute, Reykjavik, Iceland
Internet Infrastructure Coalition / I2Coalition
Just Foreign Policy
Microsoft
National Korean American Service and Education Consortium (NAKASEC)
National Security Counselors
New America's Open Technology Institute
OpenMedia
Open Net Korea
PEN America
Reform Government Surveillance
Samuelson-Glushko Canadian Internet Policy & Public Interest Clinic (CIPPIC), Canada
Symantec