

September

Re FISA Section Reauthori ation

Dear Representative

The undersigned civil rights civil liberties privac and government oversight organi ations
rite to urge ou to vote no on reauthori ation of Section of the Foreign Intelligence
Surveillance Act

States. The FISA court required corrective action to limit the use of this information but Sen. Ron Wyden (D-OR) has recently asked the administration to publicly clarify whether the government uses Section 702 for this purpose.

- Section 702 has been used to collect information completely unrelated to its targets. For example, a review of documents provided to the Washington Post found that 10% of the information collected while targeting a foreigner abroad had nothing to do with the target and included sensitive information like medical records and family photos. Despite being deemed useless by analysts, the information was retained.
- The government has failed to comply with its obligation to provide notice in criminal cases where Section 702 is used to criminally prosecute. Prior to 2013, no criminal defendant had ever received notice that Section 702 information was being used against them even though it turns out that it was. Since that time, following an apparent reexamination in police notice as provided in a total of eight cases, this number is suspiciously low given that the intelligence community confirmed it shares criminal evidence unrelated to terrorism with investigators. There are also reports that intelligence is regularly funneled to the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), which then uses parallel construction to obscure the source of the evidence. Despite repeated requests, the Department of Justice continues to withhold its legal

made compliant with the privacy rules in this instance it has reserved the right to restart those surveillance activities called upstream about collection even knowing the will certainly pick up domestic and irrelevant communications

The NSA and CIA knowingly search for Americans' communications and metadata in the database tens of thousands of times a year and though the FBI does not keep track of its searches for Americans' information the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board reports that the FBI conducts such searches routinely. New reports from the DNI confirm that NSA and CIA agents searched through data with known American identifiers like emails and phone numbers well over 100 times last year and that does not account for the FBI's use or the number of times the CIA searches through metadata pertaining to Americans' communications. It also does not reflect new changes in the privacy rules that will allow the National Counterterrorism Center access to the data starting this summer or that will allow intelligence agencies to query communications collected through upstream surveillance which was prohibited until this summer

- The administration has reversed course on estimating the number of Americans surveilled under Section 702. Following over a year of briefings with Congressional staff and other stakeholders the DNI committed to provide an estimate of the number of Americans whose communications were incidentally collected under the program but reneged on this commitment in June of this year

