

According to the DNI, the program does not allow the Government to listen in on anyone's phone calls. Nor does the information acquired include the content of any communications or the identity of any subscriber.

The DNI stated that "the only type of information acquired under the Court's order is telephony metadata, such as telephone numbers dialed and length of calls." The DNI stated that the data collection was "broad in scope because more narrow collection would limit our ability to screen for and identify terrorism-related communications. Acquiring this information allows us to make connections related to terrorist activities over time."

As a senior member of the Judiciary Committee, I have long been committed to safeguarding and protecting the constitutional rights and civil liberties of all Americans. Indeed, in 2001 I voted against the Patriot Act on the House floor because I was concerned that it did not contain sufficient protections to safeguard civil liberties, after it was rewritten from the bipartisan committee product that had strong civil liberties' protections.

I am also a charter member of the Homeland Security Committee, which is charged with the indispensable role of providing direction, guidance, and oversight to the Department of Homeland Security so that it fulfills its mission of keeping the homeland safe. So I am very familiar and sensitive to the inherent tensions between liberty and security.

I believe the questions raised by supporters of the Amash/Conyers Amendment about the NSA metadata program are legitimate, particularly the question whether there are sufficient protections for Americans' civil liberties. On the other hand, I am concerned that the amendment would also have the effect of precluding the use of section 501 to obtain an individual order for any business record (not just telephone data) about a person associated with someone who is the subject of an authorized investigation because of the defunding.

Madam Chair, striking the appropriate balance between the competing interests of national security and civil liberties requires thoughtful and careful deliberation. I believe that decisions of this scope and moment should be made in the regular legislative process where they are first vetted by the committees of jurisdiction which have the resources and expertise to examine the issues carefully, debate them fully, and to compile a legislative record that will enable the House to render a wise and informed judgment.

Because a funds limitation provision on an appropriations bill is poorly suited for this purpose, I do not support the Amash/Conyers Amendment. In contrast, I support and am an original co-sponsor of H.R. 2399, the "Limiting Internet and Blanket Electronic Review of Telecommunications and Email Act of 2013" ("LIBERT-E" Act), introduced by Congressmen CONYERS and AMASH and look forward to working with them and Chairman GOODLATTE to ensure that this legislation is considered under regular order by the Judiciary Committee.

Similarly, I look forward to working with my colleagues on the Judiciary Committee to hold hearings, markup, and report favorably to the House H.R. 2440, the "FISA Court in the Sunshine Act of 2013," bipartisan legislation I introduced last month that will bring much needed transparency without compromising national security to the decisions, orders, and

opinions of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court or "FISA Court." Specifically, my legislation, which is the House counterpart to bipartisan companion bill introduced in the Senate:

requires the Attorney General to disclose each decision, order, or opinion of a Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court (FISC), allowing Americans to know how broad of a legal authority the government is claiming under the PATRIOT ACT and Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act to conduct the surveillance needed to keep Americans safe;

addresses national security concerns by providing that if a decision of the FISA Court cannot be declassified without undermining national security interest, then the Attorney General shall disclose a summary of the opinion;

provides that if the Attorney General determines that even a summary of opinion would endanger national security interests, the Attorney General shall to provide a report to Congress describing the process to be implemented to declassify FISA Court opinions; and

requires the Attorney General to provide an estimate of the number of opinions that will be declassified and the number that are expected to be withheld because of national security concerns.

Madam Chair, it is critically important that legislation adopted by the House strike the proper balance between national security interests and protection of civil rights and liberties and the public's right to know. My legislation H.R. 2440, the "FISA Court in the Sunshine Act of 2013," strikes the proper balance.

More important, by considering this legislation in regular order instead of during the truncated and expedited proceeding that is a funding limitation amendment to an appropriations bill, the danger of making an incorrect decision can be avoided and the likelihood of reaching an informed and carefully calibrated decision that will enjoy the support of a majority of the Congress and the public will be increased substantially.

For these reasons, Madam Chair, I must reluctantly oppose the Amash-Conyers Amendment and urge my colleagues to do likewise.

STUDENT SUCCESS ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. BETTY MCCOLLUM

OF MINNESOTA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 18, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 5) to support State and local accountability for public education, protect State and local authority, inform parents of the performance of their children's schools, and for other purposes:

Ms. MCCOLLUM. Mr. Chair, I rise today in strong opposition to the partisan House Republican plan to destroy and dismantle the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA). Simply, this bill, H.R. 5, abandons our national commitment to equity in education for all K–12 students.

For decades, Members of Congress—on both sides of the aisle—had supported the need for targeted resources designed to help our nation's disadvantaged students and close

achievement gaps. But unfortunately, House Republicans have decided to turn their backs on our most vulnerable students in this bill. They are gutting education funding. They are removing protections for students with disabilities. They are making it easier to divert money away from poor and minority students. The Republican bill abandons the children who need us the most.

There is no doubt that the current law under No Child Left Behind is in need of serious reform. I voted against No Child Left Behind in 2001 and I know Minnesota schools, educators, and parents have had problems with it from the beginning.

Today I do stand in strong support of the Democratic alternative. It repeals the inflexible Adequate Yearly Progress requirements and replaces them with a focus on student growth and preparation. It includes policies to ensure that all students have a well-rounded education including science, the arts, and languages. It supports innovations in education with investments in educational research and technology, high-quality charter schools, and comprehensive school plans to reduce bullying and keep all students safe.

Our families, our educators, and our communities deserve K–12 education legislation that ensures all students have access to a world class education. Congress should be passing legislation that invests in our neighborhood schools, supports the development of effective teachers and principals, and helps students prepare for their future careers. I urge my colleagues to embrace real education reform by voting for the Democratic alternative and against the underlying bill.

DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE APPROPRIATIONS ACT, 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. EARL BLUMENAUER

OF OREGON

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 23, 2013

The House in Committee of the Whole House on the state of the Union had under consideration the bill (H.R. 2397) making appropriations for the Department of Defense for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2014, and for other purposes:

Mr. BLUMENAUER. Mr. Chair, I would like to thank my colleagues, Mr. PALAZZO and Mr. NUGENT, for their work on this important amendment.

Going forward, it is critical that we ensure our defense spending in no way disproportionately and unfairly impacts our Guard and Reserve, which this amendment would prevent.

America faces an unusual national defense crisis.

It's not that we are at risk of anyone surpassing our military might; America remains by far the most powerful nation on the planet.

The problem is that the way we invest in our military is not sustainable. The U.S. accounts for almost half of worldwide military spending, more than the next 14 countries combined.

We must find a way to maintain our strength, but spend less and smarter. This should be done by placing a greater emphasis on the role of our National Guard and Reserve to strengthen national readiness going forward.

The many Guard and Reserve deployments over the last decade have resulted in highly seasoned guardsmen with more skill and experience than we've ever seen.

We cannot allow Big Army, Air Force or Navy to push their sequestration-woes onto our citizen soldiers. Under sequestration, technicians are the only uniformed military personnel who are being furloughed. While we must continue working to replace the devastating sequester cuts for all affected, furloughing military technicians undermines our last decade of investment, which is imprudent and will cost us in the long run.

When it comes to keeping America safe in the midst of shrinking budgets, the National Guard is an investment with a very high return and should play a critical role in meeting the demands of our 21st century commitments.

I urge my colleagues to support this amendment.

IN RECOGNITION OF THE UNIVERSITY OF SCRANTON CELEBRATING ITS 125TH ANNIVERSARY DURING THE 2013-2014 ACADEMIC YEAR

HON. MATT CARTWRIGHT

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2013

Mr. CARTWRIGHT. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the University of Scranton and congratulate its leadership and students as the university celebrates its 125th academic anniversary. Founded in 1888, the University of Scranton will commemorate this remarkable achievement through various events throughout the 2013–2014 school year.

The University of Scranton was originally founded as Saint Thomas College by the most Reverend William G. O'Hara, D.D., the first Bishop of Scranton. In August 1888, the cornerstone was blessed by Bishop O'Hara, who sought to provide higher education for the Lackawanna Valley.

Prior to being administered by Jesuits, the university saw leadership by diocesan priests and seminarians, Xaverian Brothers, and the Christian Brothers, who changed the name of the school in 1938 from Saint Thomas College to the University of Scranton. In 1942, Reverend Coleman Nevils, S.J. led 19 Jesuits to administer the University of Scranton, an educational presence still felt today under Rev. Kevin P. Quinn S.J., who continues to grow the range of academic offerings and advanced degrees offered by the institution.

Through the years, the University of Scranton has gone from less than 1,000 local commuter students, to more than 6,000 students who come from all over northeastern Pennsylvania and beyond. The university's strategy and modern initiatives aimed at bettering lives and academics of its students are based on core Ignatian values, such as Cura Personalis (treating others, especially students, as individuals, just as God treats us), Magis (a relentless desire for excellence grounded in gratitude), and Rei Sollicitudo (a commitment to careful stewardship of the resources entrusted to our care).

In recognition of the University of Scranton's storied success, it will celebrate the 125th anniversary of the blessing of the original corner-

stone with a mass and luncheon on August 12. The university is a gem in my district, and I offer my congratulations to the faculty, staff, administration, students and alumni on this momentous occasion.

RECOGNIZING DREAM IT. DO IT.

HON. LEE TERRY

OF NEBRASKA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2013

Mr. TERRY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Dream It. Do It., Nebraska's new partnership with my alma mater, Omaha Northwest High School.

The Dream It. Do It. Initiative partners manufacturers with local schools and community organizations to promote manufacturing and educate students on careers in an industry that supports one in six jobs in the United States. According to the National Association of Manufacturers, the manufacturing industry employs nearly 10 percent of the workforce in Nebraska with annual average salaries of \$53,831. That's \$14,000 higher than other non-farm payrolls in my State. In addition to educating students on benefits of careers in manufacturing, Dream It. Do It. Nebraska helps students and their families understand the education paths necessary to obtain these jobs.

As Chairman of the Subcommittee on Commerce, Manufacturing and Trade of the House Energy and Commerce Committee, I have heard repeatedly from over 40 witnesses in our Nation of Builders hearings that there are a lot of manufacturing jobs available. I've heard this from some manufacturers in Omaha. The problem is that employers are finding there isn't a pool of potential employees with the necessary skills for these positions. Dream It. Do It. Nebraska makes sure that tomorrow's workers in my district have the education and skills required to fill these great, middle-class jobs. I am pleased that Dream It. Do It. Nebraska is working in my district to help prepare young people for these jobs.

With twenty-five programs nationwide, Dream It. Do It. is truly a grassroots program. Its grassroots nature allows local leaders to design programs to address the specific needs in their communities. Dream It. Do It. Nebraska is able to prepare Nebraska students for Nebraska jobs.

Mr. Speaker, please join me in congratulating Dream It. Do It. Nebraska and Omaha Northwest High School on their new partnership. I know that my Northwest Huskies and Dream It. Do It. Nebraska's partnership will benefit Nebraskans for years to come.

HONORING MISS CALIFORNIA 2013, CRYSTAL LEE

HON. MICHAEL M. HONDA

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2013

Mr. HONDA. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Miss California 2013, Crystal Lee, who will be competing in the prestigious Miss America pageant this September.

A lifelong Bay Area resident, Crystal competed as Miss Silicon Valley against 60 other

outstanding young women at the Miss California Pageant earlier this year. Through five phases of competition, including interview, physical fitness in swimsuit, evening wear, on-stage question and talent, Crystal rose to the top. During preliminary competition nights, she even took top honors for her evening gown presentation and her ballet en pointe performance of "The Dying Swan." The latter should come as no surprise, since Crystal is an accomplished dancer who has been perfecting her technique for the last 13 years.

Winning the title of Miss California earned Crystal more than \$14,000 in scholarships. Over her four years of competing in the Miss America program, including in 2008 when she was Miss California's Outstanding Teen, Crystal has earned more than \$30,000 in scholarships. These awards were well spent, as Crystal graduated this past June from the venerable Stanford University. Proving that our Miss California has both beauty and brains, Crystal worked as a research assistant in the psychology, biology, virtual reality and drama departments and graduated with a Bachelor of Arts in Human Biology and a Master's Degree in Communications.

Crystal will put her Stanford education and Silicon Valley roots to good use through her Miss California platform Girls in S.T.E.M. (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math). She's been a steadfast advocate for women to study and choose careers in STEM after she experienced firsthand a gender imbalance in her own classes and multiple internships at male-dominated technology start-ups. She's worked hand-in-hand with the Girl Scouts of America to help young girls understand engineering principles and earn their technology badges.

With perseverance, hard work and a little luck, Crystal will be able to continue her STEM platform at the national level as Miss America. California is fortunate to have such a strong and successful young woman representing us. This year's Miss America pageant will take on special meaning when it returns to its birthplace in Atlantic City after seven years away and no doubt it will be a memorable experience for all the young women participating. However, there is one I'll be cheering for most. To Miss California 2013, Crystal Lee, I wish nothing but the best of luck in her pursuit of the Miss America crown.

CONGRATULATING DR. ERDAG GOKNAR

HON. G.K. BUTTERFIELD

OF NORTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, July 25, 2013

Mr. BUTTERFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise to congratulate Dr. Erdag Goknar of Duke University in Durham, North Carolina for being honored by the National Endowment for the Arts, NEA, and awarded a 2014 NEA Literature Translation Fellowship.

Dr. Goknar serves at Duke University as an Assistant Professor of Turkish Studies and concentrates on late Ottoman and modern Turkish works. He also specializes in politics and cultural translation on works from the Middle East, including Islam and Sufism as well as secular modernity, identity, and gender issues. He is a published author on Turkish literary culture and has produced three complete translations of important Turkish books.