

USA FREEDOM ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. MIKE ROGERS

OF MICHIGAN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2014

Mr. ROGERS of Michigan. Mr. Speaker, I would like to begin by thanking Chairman GOODLATTE, Mr. SENSENBRENNER, the other Judiciary Committee sponsors, and Leader CANTOR for all of their hard work coming to a compromise with the Intelligence Committee that enacts meaningful change to FISA while preserving operational capabilities.

It is commendable that we have found a responsible legislative solution to address concerns about the bulk telephone metadata program so that we may move forward on other national security legislative priorities. Our obligation to protect this country should not be held hostage by the actions of traitors who leak classified information that puts our troops in the field at risk or those who fear-monger and spread mistruth to further their own misguided agenda.

Following the criminal disclosures of intelligence information last June, the Section 215 telephone metadata program has been the subject of intense, and often inaccurate, criticism. The bulk telephone metadata program is legal, overseen, and effective at saving American lives. All three branches of government oversee this program, including Congress, inspectors general, and internal compliance and privacy and civil liberties offices in executive branch agencies.

Despite the effectiveness of the program, and the immense safeguards on the data, many Americans and many Members of this body still have concerns about a potential for abuse. The legislation we are considering today is designed to address those concerns and reflects hundreds of hours of Member and staff work to negotiate a workable compromise.

In March, Intelligence Committee Ranking Member RUPPERSBERGER and I introduced legislation that was designed to accomplish these main priorities: We committed to ending bulk metadata collection of communications and other types of records. We committed to providing more targeted, narrow authorities so as not to put America at risk. We committed to providing an even more robust judicial review process for the program. And we committed to providing more transparency into the FISA process and the decisions of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Court. The revised USA Freedom Act accomplishes the same goals, as well.

This legislation is intended to prohibit "bulk" collection activities under the authorities in question. "Bulk" collection means the indiscriminate acquisition of information or tangible things. It does not mean the acquisition of a large number of communications records or other tangible things. Rather, the prohibition applies to the use of these authorities to engage in indiscriminate or "bulk" data collection. These changes are intended to respond to concerns that these authorities could be used to permit a bulk data collection "loop-hole."

The bill bans bulk collection by introducing the requirement for a "specific selection term." The ban on bulk collection, however, is not in-

tended to limit acquisition of information through the traditional, targeted types of FISA or National Security Letters. The list of examples of what may constitute a specific selection term is non exhaustive, and we anticipate there will be other forms of discriminants than those contained in the legislation.

The legislation also creates a new mechanism for obtaining call detail records on a continuing basis for up to 180 days to protect against international terrorism. The legislation is not intended to affect any current uses of Section 501 outside of the bulk context, including for records related to foreign intelligence information not concerning a U.S. person and clandestine intelligence activities.

We also assured that the language we are considering today permits a return of two hops to include using records identified by the government as the basis for the second hop. Additionally, it is important that when records are produced to the government they are produced in a form that will be useful—meaning that the government can set conditions on their production, including by determining the format and manner for production. This does not, however, mandate that companies change their business practices to store data in any particular form.

The USA Freedom Act provides the meaningful change to the telephone metadata program that Members of the House have been seeking. If we had the fortune of having a Commander in Chief firmly dedicated to the preservation of this program as is, we may have been able to protect it in its entirety. With that not being the case, I believe this is a workable compromise that protects the core function of a counterterrorism program we know has saved lives around the world.

I urge Members to support this legislation.

RECOGNIZING THE 25TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE PRINCE WILLIAM COMMITTEE OF 100

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 23, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the 25th anniversary of the Prince William Committee of 100.

The Prince William Committee of 100 was founded to pursue a simple but essential mission: examining issues facing Prince William County and the cities of Manassas and Manassas Park by engaging topics through educational forums. By hosting thoughtful discussions and debates, the Committee pursues solutions to area problems and helps foster a better understanding of pressing community matters.

The Prince William Committee of 100 strives to attract membership that is representative of the cultural, political, professional, and demographic diversity of the Prince William area. Membership must reside or work in Prince William County or the Cities of Manassas and Manassas Park and demonstrate that they are community stakeholders with a vested interest in local affairs.

It is my honor to enter into the Congressional Record the names of the current officers and board members of the Prince William Committee of 100. It is dedication like theirs

that has helped sustain this vital organization for 25 years.

President: Denny Daugherty
Vice President: Jack Kooyoomjian
Secretary: Jan Cunard
Assistant Secretary: Carol Proven
Treasurer: Harry Wiggins
Assistant Treasurer: Patricia Bradburn
Brentsville Director: Mary Beth Schaal
Coles Director: Jim O'Connor
Gainesville Director: Carol Noggle
City of Manassas Director: Susan Bardenhagen
Neabco Director: Patrick Durany
Occoquan Director: Don Scoggins
Potomac Director: James Young
Woodbridge Director: Antonio Merrick
At Large Director: Judy Anderson
At Large Director: Harry Glasgow
At Large Director: Connie Moser
At Large Director: Jane Beyer
Immediate Past President: Martha Hendley
Program Chair: Judy Zoll
Assistant Program Chair: Carol Noggle
Publicity Chair: Connie Moser
Assistant Publicity Chair: Nancy Vehrs
Auditors: Tony Guiffre and Judith Anderson
Webmaster: Jim O'Connor

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the Prince William Committee of 100 on its 25th anniversary. The Committee helps create an active and more well-informed citizenry and our community is stronger for it.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

HON. SCOTT GARRETT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 23, 2014

Mr. GARRETT. Mr. Speaker, I submit a clarification of my vote during consideration of H.R. 4435, the Howard P. "Buck" McKeon National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2015. I mistakenly voted "no" on rollcall Vote 231, the McKinley of West Virginia Amendment No. 1. I intended to vote "aye."

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS MANAGEMENT ACCOUNTABILITY ACT OF 2014

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 21, 2014

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, our veterans have served our Nation with pride and honor since our country was founded over 200 years ago, and we owe them and their families a debt that we can never fully repay.

One of the things we can do, however, is ensure that veterans receive the benefits they have earned, and providing high-quality health care must be our foremost priority. If a person is ill, his or her entire quality of life is affected.

The revelations we have learned about the gross negligence at the Phoenix hospital are shocking and deplorable and should be condemned—and should never happen again. But H.R. 4031 does not get to the root of the matter and it does not fix the issue.

Clearly there are serious problems at the VA that must be addressed, and those that allowed this travesty must be held accountable.

However, this bill does not address this problem.

This bill would allow Senior Executive Service employees to be fired without cause—for absolutely no reason, including political reasons. Under current law, Senior Executive Service employees can already be fired for poor performance. An SES employee must, not can, but must be removed should they receive even one unsatisfactory rating.

I strongly support holding all federal employees accountable for the job they are hired to do, no matter what position they hold in government. The American people must have faith in their government. While an investigation of the problems at the Phoenix VA is ongoing, the negligence and indifference is inexcusable. We must get to the bottom of what happened, and make sure it, or anything like it, never happens again.

We should be looking for answers, not using time and energy on this bill, and instead focus on the real problem of why these horrendous actions were allowed to occur.

RECOGNIZING VIVIAN CASTLEBERRY

HON. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 23, 2014

Ms. EDDIE BERNICE JOHNSON of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize Vivian Castleberry, recipient of the 2014 Visionary Woman award given by Juliette Fowler Communities. Ms. Castleberry became the first female editor of the Dallas Times Herald in 1957 and spent twenty-eight years there before her retirement to pursue a second career as a profound peace activist.

A Texas native, Ms. Castleberry co-founded The Dallas Women's Foundation, The Family Place, and the Women's Center of Dallas and founded Peacemakers Incorporated. Her work as a "grassroots Citizen Diplomat" included traveling to Russia to meet and interview women entrepreneurs who were educated in the United States and returned to Russia to use their skills to build their own communities.

Since retiring from the Dallas Times Herald, Ms. Castleberry has written four books: *Daughters of Dallas*, *The Texas Tornado*, *Sarah the Bridge Builder*, and *Seeds of Success*. Because of her success in journalism, Ms. Castleberry has won numerous awards like the "Katie" awards given by the Press Club of Dallas, two United Press International awards, a Buck Marryat Award for "outstanding contributions to communications," among others.

Ms. Castleberry was inducted into the Texas Women's Hall of Fame in 1984 which is the same year of its creation. A journalistic pioneer, I am proud that Ms. Castleberry is a member of the Dallas community. Ms. Castleberry is said to have been the "godmother" of the women's movement in Dallas. Her success in shining the light on capable and accomplished women contributes to today's women's movement.

Please join me in recognizing Vivian Castleberry, a woman I count on as one of my good friends and supporters over the years, not only for her earning the 2014 Visionary Woman award, but for helping to bring women to the forefront of our society.

RECOGNIZING THE NATIONAL COALITION OF 100 BLACK WOMEN, INC., PRINCE WILLIAM COUNTY CHAPTER

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 23, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise to recognize the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc., Prince William County Chapter and congratulate them on being awarded a \$78,000 grant from Potomac Health Foundation to educate African American women in eight churches on Triple Negative Breast Cancer.

The National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc. Prince William County Chapter was established on Saturday, November 17, 2012 in Woodbridge, Virginia with the mission to advocate on behalf of women of color through national and local actions and strategic alliances that promote the NCBW agenda on leadership development and gender equality in the areas of Health, Education, Economic and Political Empowerment.

With more than thirty partners and vendors, which included local, district and national organizations, NCBW began 2013 with a community health fair on February 9—"Knowledge is Key to Good Health." The health fair included a panel discussion on Triple Negative Breast Cancer which included a Surgeon, Radiation Oncologist, Medical Oncologist and a Radiologist/Mammographer. The health fair ended with eight breakout sessions and on-site screenings.

Each two hour session was conducted by the executive team with support from Sentara Northern Virginia Medical Center. In addition, each session was followed by mammography screenings. Hundreds of women in Prince William County have been educated on Triple Negative Breast Cancer and the importance of early detection. NCBW partnered with Sentara Northern Virginia Medical Center and its physicians to develop the curriculum, conducted all training sessions and provided mammography screenings. The training sessions have been completed at all eight churches in Prince William County.

On November 2, 2013 NCBW held their first kick off implementing their faith-based educational workshop program, "A Culturally Targeted Faith-Based Program focused on Educating Black Women in Prince William County about Triple Negative Breast Cancer to Increase Awareness on Prevention, Early Detection, Treatment, and Quality of Life" at First Mount Zion Baptist Church in Dumfries, Virginia. This session was followed by seven other faith-based outreach events in the surrounding community with efforts of equipping the female population with knowledge of breast cancer. These educational sessions educated thousands of women on Triple Negative Breast Cancer and the importance in Mammography Screening.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in commending the National Coalition of 100 Black Women, Inc., Prince William County Chapter for educating the community about Triple Negative Breast Cancer. They have done yeoman's work promoting preventative care and the importance of living a healthy lifestyle.

TRIBUTE TO BETTINA L. WESLOH

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 23, 2014

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to salute my constituent, Bettina L. Wesloh, a distinguished community leader. In June, Mrs. Wesloh, a resident of Eldersburg, Maryland, will receive the Leader of Excellence Award from Girl Scouts USA.

Mrs. Wesloh has been a mentor for pre-teen and teen girls in Girl Scout Troop 1379. She has motivated these girls to continue in scouting and inspired them to participate in outstanding community service activities, including making 75 blankets for Project Linus, for which the troop earned the Silver Award. As the members of the troop work toward earning their Gold Awards, Mrs. Wesloh continues to advise and assist the girls. She also takes the time to advise independent girl scouts who are not members of Troop 1379.

Mrs. Wesloh also serves as a mentor for the Robo-Lions FRC Team 2199 robotics team, assisting the students with public relations and business projects. She has been instrumental in organizing field trips for the students and fundraising drives to support science, technology, engineering and mathematics initiatives. Under her mentorship, the team won two Entrepreneurship Awards and the Regional Chairman's Award, which is considered the highest award a team can win at a regional FIRST robotics competition. In fact, Mrs. Wesloh is so passionate about the importance of STEM education that she is a founding director of PIE3, a non-profit organization that supports STEM education and activities in and around Carroll County, Maryland. Mrs. Wesloh is also a substitute teacher for the Carroll County Public Schools.

A member of the Wesley Freedom United Methodist Church, Mrs. Wesloh has served as President of United Methodist Women, which, among other things, advocates for women's rights and the prevention of human trafficking. Mrs. Wesloh is part of United Methodist's Leadership team and Servant Circle. In recent years, Mrs. Wesloh organized the collection of over fifty flood buckets for donation to the victims of Hurricane Sandy.

Bettina Wesloh is a truly compassionate and dedicated community leader who has made a difference in the lives of countless people. I ask my colleagues to join me in expressing our deepest gratitude and appreciation to her for her outstanding community service and her invaluable work with young people.

USA FREEDOM ACT

SPEECH OF

HON. RUSH HOLT

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Thursday, May 22, 2014

Mr. HOLT. Mr. Speaker, I recognize the work that Mr. SENSENBRENNER, Mr. CONYERS, Mr. GOODLATTE, Mr. SCOTT, and others have put into this, but the bill before us still falls woefully short of what is required to correct the abuses brought to light over the last year.

This legislation still allows the government to collect everything they want against Americans—to treat Americans as suspects first and