

"NO" on rollcall vote No. 212 (on agreeing to the first LaMalfa Amendment to H.R. 2028), "NO" on rollcall vote No. 213 (on agreeing to the second LaMalfa Amendment to H.R. 2028),

"YES" on rollcall vote No. 214 (on the motion to recommit H.R. 2028, with instructions),

"NO" on rollcall vote No. 215 (on passage of H.R. 2028).

HONORING JEWISH AMERICAN HERITAGE MONTH

HON. CHARLES B. RANGEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 15, 2015

Mr. RANGEL. Mr. Speaker, this May we celebrate Jewish American History Month, to recognize the social, political, and cultural history of America's Jewish community. I am pleased to recognize the myriad contributions Jewish Americans make every day to improve our City, State and Nation often in the face of unspeakable discrimination and adversity. America is blessed to have such a vibrant community that impacts so many lives through the spirit of tikkun olam, or repairing the world.

It is my great honor to represent the Upper Manhattan Congressional District and the Bronx, which is home to many distinguished institutions, such as The Jewish Theological Seminary, Yeshiva University, and Touro College, as well as almost thirty active synagogues of all denominations. I am proud that my dearly respected friend, Rabbi Arthur Schneier, who is world-renowned for his efforts to promote peace and justice, has been recently knighted by Pope Francis and made a member of the Papal Order of St. Sylvester at a ceremony in New York.

Over the years, I have worked closely with New York based institutional organizations like the Jewish Community Relations Council, Met Council of Jewish Poverty and the American Jewish Committee on a variety of issues. I have led past efforts to assist Jews seeking refuge from the former Soviet Union and Ethiopia, and I am proud to have worked with my colleagues in Congress on various bills to fight anti-Semitism and racism. Just recently I supported a resolution urging the Administration to combat anti-Semitism globally. As a strong supporter of Israel, I will continue to advocate for stability in the Middle East. I congratulate Jewish people everywhere for their contributions to our community and to our country. To them I say Shalom and Kol Tov.

HONORING NIA DORROUGH

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 15, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a goal oriented student at Quitman County Middle School.

Nia Dorrough was born on November 29, 2002 to Tawanda Dorrough. She is the granddaughter of Melvin and Virginia Dorrough. Nia is a straight A student who has been on the Superintendent's List since kindergarten. She is an active member of the Quitman County

Middle School's Student Council. She also represented the Language Arts department in her schools coronation as Miss Language Arts for her astounding scores. When Nia was at Quitman County Elementary School, Nia volunteered to help raise money for her school to build a new playground by collecting box tops. Some of Nia's goals include: helping medical researchers gain funding to find a cure for cancer and other diseases. She aspires to do this by becoming a successful lawyer with her own law firm. Nia is an active member in her community and works as a Junior Secretary for Burrell Chapel M. B. Church.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Nia Dorrough, as a student who is goal oriented and making a difference in her community.

CONGRATULATING WEST KENTUCKY COMMUNITY AND TECHNICAL COLLEGE

HON. ED WHITFIELD

OF KENTUCKY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 15, 2015

Mr. WHITFIELD. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to congratulate West Kentucky Community and Technical College (WKCTC) on recently being named one of the top three community colleges in America by the Aspen Institute.

Selected from 1,123 community colleges nationwide, this marks the second time WKCTC has been chosen as Finalist-with-Distinction in addition to having been ranked as a top ten finalist every year the Aspen Prize has been awarded since its launch in 2011.

Created by the Aspen Institute, The Aspen Prize is the nation's preeminent recognition of high achievement and performance in America's community colleges and is awarded every two years. The prize recognizes institutions for outstanding outcomes in four areas: student learning; certificate and degree completion; employment and earnings; and high levels of access and success for minority and low-income students.

WKCTC students graduate and transfer at rates that exceed the national average by eight percent and asserts no gap in graduation rates between minorities and other students—a rare occurrence in most of the nation's colleges and universities. Working to draw first-generation students into college, WKCTC faculty and staff consistently track student learning and completion outcomes and use this data to improve teaching and guidance practices. These efforts have resulted in an increase in student retention and degree completion, and place them among the very best in graduating students who are prepared for meaningful employment and/or success after transferring to a four-year institution.

WKCTC has been a primary player in efforts to expand economic growth, from a high-tech industrialized training facility for area companies to adding programs in anticipated growth areas, including marine technology, logistics and operations management.

Community colleges today enroll more than 40 percent of all U.S. undergraduates—7 million students—working toward degrees and certificates. While fewer than half of all community college students graduate nationwide, Aspen Prize finalist institutions demonstrate

community colleges can help students achieve higher levels of success while in college and after they graduate.

West Kentucky Community and Technical College, located in Paducah, Kentucky, stands among these leading institutions and I am pleased to see its success once again being acknowledged.

UNITING AND STRENGTHENING AMERICA BY FULFILLING RIGHTS AND ENSURING EFFECTIVE DISCIPLINE OVER MONITORING ACT OF 2015

SPEECH OF

HON. CHRIS VAN HOLLEN

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Wednesday, May 13, 2015

Mr. VAN HOLLEN. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in opposition to H.R. 2048, the USA Freedom Act.

In the wake of last week's 2nd Circuit Court Decision, I want to commend Chairman GOODLATTE, Ranking Member CONYERS, Congressman SENSENBRENNER, and Congressman NADLER, for crafting legislation that makes meaningful reforms to many NSA surveillance programs—including Section 215 of the Patriot Act—and is a departure from the untenable status quo. However, despite these positive reforms, this bill fails to address Section 702 of the FISA Amendments Act, an even more invasive program than Section 215 which allows the government to collect both data and content of Americans without a warrant.

Last year's version of the USA Freedom Act similarly scaled back many of the surveillance programs the NSA currently has at its disposal. Unfortunately, Section 702 was not one of them. Throughout the process, we were repeatedly assured by Chairman GOODLATTE and Congressman SENSENBRENNER that there would be a real future effort to address Section 702. At that time, Rep. SENSENBRENNER stated, "Section 702 of FISA has been improperly used to obtain the content of Americans' private communications without a warrant, which is unconstitutional under the Fourth Amendment and a blatant violation of Americans' civil liberties."

Like Rep. SENSENBRENNER, I have also consistently said that Section 702 opened the door to some of the most troublesome surveillance practices that have come to light in recent years. Last year, I strongly supported the effort to fix those aspects of Section 702. Unfortunately, as I indicated last year, last minute changes stripped out provisions that would have "prevented the NSA from being able to search government databases for foreign communications content of American citizens without a warrant." When those important provisions were removed, Chairman GOODLATTE and Rep. SENSENBRENNER pledged that we would address these reforms without delay.

Unfortunately, here we are a year later and Chairman GOODLATTE and Rep. SENSENBRENNER still have not allowed for a full debate and vote on this issue. Despite the Chairman's supposed support to end Section 702, when Congresswoman LOFGREN offered an amendment during markup of the USA Freedom Act to prohibit these warrantless backdoor searches, Chairman GOODLATTE said, "this is

a poison pill amendment . . . , there is a time and a place for everything.” When this bill came before the Rules Committee, Rep. LOFGREN was not even allowed to offer her amendment.

The refusal to include reforms to Section 702 is even more disappointing given that there are many important provisions in this bill that provide additional safeguards to protect the privacy and civil liberties of Americans. Specifically, this bill puts significant constraints on the government’s ability to collect data under Section 215. No longer will the NSA be able to collect the phone records of millions of Americans who have no connection to crime or terrorism. Instead, every request made by the NSA for specific call records must be reviewed on a case-by-case basis by the FISA court.

This legislation also carefully constructs the definition of the “specific selection terms” the government can use to access call records. H.R. 2048 requires the “specific selection term” to be an “individual, account, or personal device.” As a result, no longer will the NSA be able to collect phone records in bulk using terms like “People in Maryland” and “Area Code 301.”

Despite these improvements to Section 215, I remain disappointed that the bill does not establish a Citizens Advocate to represent citizens’ privacy interests at the secret FISA Court proceedings. In 2013, Representative JIM JORDAN and I introduced bipartisan legislation to create such a position. The initial draft of last year’s USA Freedom Act included this provision, but this language has since been weakened and only provides for a panel of advisors to be employed at the discretion of the FISC.

Last month’s decision by the Second Circuit in *ACLU v. Clapper*, makes clear that Section 215 is illegal and that a clean re-authorization would be a clear violation of the law. So while I appreciate the reforms made in this bill to Section 215, these reforms are modest given the Court’s recent decision. On the other hand, Section 702 of the FISA Amendments Act does not sunset until the end of 2017 and there is no clear indication that we will be voting to curtail this program anytime in the near future. I believe that today’s legislation could be our last real opportunity to address this. It is my hope that the companion legislation in the Senate includes these provisions and that I will be able to support a final compromise bill later this year.

IN RECOGNITION OF ELIZABETH
“BETTY” M. PERRY

HON. DORIS O. MATSUI

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 15, 2015

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize my friend and a true leader of our nation’s seniors, Ms. Elizabeth “Betty” Perry, who recently passed away. I ask all my colleagues to join me in recognizing her for her work on behalf of all Americans.

A Sacramento native, Betty returned home to become a teacher after graduating from UC Berkeley. She first taught at Kit Carson Junior High School, and then became a teacher and counselor at C. K. McClatchy High School,

where she influenced many students. One of these students was my husband, the late Congressman Robert Matsui. Bob adored Betty and remained close to her when he served on the Sacramento City Council and in Congress. After her teaching career came to a close, Betty emerged a true expert and leader on senior issues, where she and Bob worked closely to ensure Medicare and Social Security were preserved for future generations. Betty was especially known for her work with the Older Women’s League (OWL), an organization whose mission is to improve the status and quality of life for midlife and older women. Within OWL, she served in many positions, including President of its Sacramento and California chapters, Coordinator of Education & Research, and Director of Public Policy. She also served as President of Health Access California. Betty was an unwavering advocate for improved access to quality health care, including universal coverage and improved in-home care, as well as fair housing laws and preserving each American’s civil rights.

Betty married Calvin Perry in 1977, gaining three step-children and six step-grandchildren in the process. In addition to her thoughtful advocacy, she was known as an incredibly caring woman and accomplished athlete.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me today in paying honor to Elizabeth “Betty” M. Perry for her extraordinary service and advocacy to those of us in Sacramento and across the nation. Her life and legacy is an inspiration to us all. I ask that we take a moment and extend our utmost respect and condolences to her family.

IRAN NUCLEAR AGREEMENT
REVIEW ACT

HON. STEVE ISRAEL

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 15, 2015

Mr. ISRAEL. Mr. Speaker, today I commend the House of Representatives for passing H.R. 1191, the Iran Nuclear Agreement Review Act of 2015. It is critical that Congress has a proper role in reviewing any final deal that may be reached regarding Iran’s nuclear program. Congress must continue to play a role to ensure Iran does not acquire a nuclear weapon.

I have been outspoken in expressing my skepticism at the current negotiations with Iran and remain skeptical after the release of the recent framework. I have many questions that have yet to be answered and am deeply concerned by Iran’s statements after the framework was released.

I have been and will continue to be defiant in demanding Congressional review of any final deal and am pleased the Senate passed this legislation last week and the House passed it today.

No deal is better than a bad deal, and this legislation allows for sufficient Congressional oversight while ensuring that we have an opportunity to review the details of any final deal should one be reached.

HONORING MARY FORTUNE
WILLIAMS

HON. BENNIE G. THOMPSON

OF MISSISSIPPI

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 15, 2015

Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor a self-motivated leader and innovator of the community, Ms. Mary Fortune Williams, MBA, works as an Accountant for the State of Mississippi. She earned her Bachelor of Science degree in Marketing from Jackson State University and her Master of Business Administration degree from Mississippi College. She also earned a Certificate of Accounting from Mississippi College.

Ms. Williams is a single parent of one daughter. After becoming divorced, when her daughter was a toddler, she was determined that her child would not become another negative statistic attributed to single parent households. She strives to instill in her daughter one of the greatest fundamentals of life: Never let negative circumstances define who you are or what you can become.

Ms. Williams is actively involved in her daughter’s educational and character development. She works diligently in her church and her community. She is part of the Youth Leadership Team at Greater Fairview Missionary Baptist Church, serves as an Assistant Leader of Girl Scout Troop 5576, serves on the PTSA Board of Murrah High School, and serves on the planning committee for the American Cancer Society’s Relay for Life of Jackson, Mississippi.

Mr. Speaker, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Ms. Mary F. Williams for giving back to the community in which she was born and reared.

IN HONOR OF SHERIFF JERRY M.
MODENA, SR.

HON. SANFORD D. BISHOP, JR.

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 15, 2015

Mr. BISHOP of Georgia. Mr. Speaker, it is with a heavy heart and solemn remembrance that I rise today to pay tribute to an outstanding public servant and courageous leader of the Macon, Georgia community, Sheriff Jerry M. Modena, Sr. Sadly, Sheriff Modena passed away on Wednesday, May 13, 2015. Funeral services to celebrate his life will be held on Monday, May 18, 2015 at 11:00 a.m. at Mabel White Memorial Baptist Church in Macon, Georgia.

Sheriff Jerry Modena was widely known in his community as a compassionate leader committed to fighting crime and making Bibb County a safer place to live. Throughout his entire career with the Sheriff’s office, Sheriff Modena gave one hundred percent of his heart to his line of duty.

Prior to joining the Bibb County Sheriff’s Office, Sheriff Modena served our country honorably as a paratrooper in the United States Army. In 1964, at the age of 23, he joined the Sheriff’s office and remained there for over forty years. In 2001, he was elected Bibb County Sheriff and remained Sheriff for three terms before stepping down in 2012. Even