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Minority Leader Mitch McConnell
United States Senate

Speaker John Boehner
Minority Leader Nancy Pelosi
United States House of Representatives

Chairman Patrick Leahy
Ranking Member Charles Grassley
Committee on the Judiciary
United States Senate

Chairman Bob Goodlatte
Ranking Member John Conyers, Jr.
Committee on the Judiciary
United States House of Representatives

Chairman Diane Feinstein
Vice Chairman Saxby Chambliss
Senate Permanent Select Committee on
Intelligence
United States Senate

Chairman Mike Rogers
Ranking Member Dutch Ruppersberger
House Permanent Select Committee on
Intelligence
United States House of Representatives

November 21, 2013

We the undersigned civil society groups, trade associations, companies and investors are supporters of the free and open Internet. We are writing to urge that intelligence surveillance practices be reformed by limiting the scope of surveillance and by substantially enhancing the privacy protections, oversight, and accountability mechanisms that govern that surveillance.

Recent disclosures regarding intelligence surveillance activity raise important concerns about the privacy and security of communications. This surveillance has already eroded trust that is essential to the free flow of information and to the exercise of human rights and civil liberties both in the United States and around the world.

To rebuild trust, we urge that the U.S. government act expeditiously to:

- allow companies to be much more transparent about the number and type of surveillance demands they receive;
- be much more transparent itself about the surveillance demands it makes, the surveillance activities in which it engages, and the legal bases for both;
- focus intelligence collection on terrorists, spies and other agents of foreign powers, rather than on everyone else; and
- ensure that its surveillance practices honor both Constitutional and human rights.

Toward this end, we welcome introduction in the House and Senate of the USA FREEDOM Act – legislation which promotes these goals. We oppose legislation that codifies sweeping bulk collection activities. We look forward to working with you on the USA FREEDOM Act and other legislation designed to protect the privacy of Internet users while permitting appropriately targeted intelligence surveillance necessary to protect against terrorism.

Sincerely,

Nonprofit Organizations

Access
Advocacy for Principled Action in Government
AIDS Policy Project
American Association of Law Libraries
American Booksellers Foundation for Free
Expression

Companies and Trade Organizations

Automattic Inc.
CloudFlare
Computer and Communications Industry Assoc.
CREDO Mobile
Data Foundry
DreamHost

Nonprofit Organizations

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American Library Association
American Civil Liberties Union
Arab American Institute
Association of Research Libraries
Center for Democracy and Technology
Center for Financial Privacy and Human Rights
Center for National Security Studies
Citizens for Responsibility and Ethics in Washington
Coalition Against Unsolicited E-mail
Competitive Enterprise Institute
The Constitution Project
Consumer Action
Council on American-Islamic Relations
Cyber Privacy Project
Defending Dissent Foundation
Demand Progress
DownsizeDC.org
Electronic Frontier Foundation
First Amendment Coalition
Freedom House
Free Press Action Fund
Freedom of the Press Foundation
Freedom to Read Foundation
FreedomWorks
Foundation for Innovation and Internet Freedom
Global Network Initiative
Government Accountability Project
Human Rights Watch
Liberty Coalition
OpenTheGovernment.org
Open Technology Institute
National Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers
National Coalition Against Censorship
National Security Counselors
Public Knowledge
OpenMedia.org
Personal Democracy Media
Project on Government Oversight
Reporters Without Borders
Republican Liberty Caucus
Rutherford Institute
TechFreedom
Texas Liberty Foundation
Companies and Trade Organizations
World Press Freedom Committee

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Dropbox
DuckDuckGo
Evoca
Golden Frog
Hewlett-Packard Company
Internet Infrastructure Coalition
Meetup
Mozilla
NetChoice
NY Tech Meetup
Reddit
ServInt
Sonic.net
SpiderOak
Tumblr
Twilio

Investors

Domini Social Investments
New Atlantic Ventures