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## Congress of the United States

April 4, 2014

Committee on Natural Resources  
Ranking Member,  
Subcommittee on Energy  
and Mineral Resources

Committee on Education and  
the Workforce

Founder and Co-Chair,  
Research & Development Caucus

Co-Chair,  
Historic Preservation Caucus

### NSA Reform Legislation: Support An Open Process

Dear Colleague,

Very soon, the House may consider legislation to modify existing PATRIOT Act surveillance authorities that have become a source of concern on both sides of the aisle. Over the last several months, we have witnessed a steady stream of revelations about the executive branch's apparent violations of existing surveillance law and the Fourth Amendment. It is now clear that executive branch officials have continuously collected extremely sensitive personal information on all Americans. A majority of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board views this bulk collection of data to be a clear violation of existing law. Some federal judges have already ruled it unconstitutional. One thing is now certain: these activities cry out for Congressional oversight.

An issue of this magnitude requires that the House as a whole be heard on the issue. Accordingly, I ask you to join me in sending the attached letter to House leadership asking that surveillance reform legislation brought to the floor during the balance of this session be debated under an open rule. To sign onto this letter, please contact [patrick.eddington@mail.house.gov](mailto:patrick.eddington@mail.house.gov) or at 5-5801.

Sincerely,

RUSH HOLT  
Member of Congress

Dear Speaker Boehner, Leader Pelosi, Leader Cantor and Whip Hoyer,

We write to ask that any legislation related to the activities of the Intelligence Community brought to the House floor during the remainder of this Congress be debated under an open rule.

Over the last several months, we have witnessed a steady stream of revelations about the executive branch's apparent violations of existing surveillance law and the Fourth Amendment. It is now clear that executive branch officials have continuously collected extremely sensitive personal information on literally every living American. A majority of the Privacy and Civil Liberties Oversight Board views this bulk collection of data to be a clear violation of existing law. Some federal judges have already ruled it unconstitutional. One thing is now certain: these activities cry out for Congressional oversight.

Several Members are sponsoring surveillance reform legislation. On this matter, the House should be allowed to work its will through an open process. Accordingly, we ask that for the remainder of this Congress, any legislation dealing with the Intelligence Community brought to the House floor be debated under an open rule. Congress must act to ensure that our nation's security is guaranteed within the bounds of the Constitution and the rights it guarantees to all our people. An open legislative process on the House floor is necessary to achieving that goal.

Sincerely,