

MIDDLE SCHOOL MODEL CONGRESS 2016

HOUSE HOMELAND SECURITY



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THE CIVICS & GOVERNMENT INSTITUTE

Department: Homeland Security

Principal Authors: Dean Schansinger

Bill No: DS111816MSMC

Co-Authors: Nicholas Miller

Title of Bill: An Act to Reestablish Metadata Records by the NSA

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CIVICS & GOVERNMENT INSTITUTE OF CONGRESS ASSEMBLED

1 Preamble: *Whereas* acts of terrorism have quadruples since 2001; *whereas* a greater
2 percentage of Americans feel unsafe due to the acts on September 11, 2001; *whereas* the
3 number of fatalities from domestic acts of terrorism are at all time highs; *whereas* Section
4 215 in the Patriot Act allows for the NSA to query telephone metadata; *whereas* metadata
5 is defined as “a set of data that describes and gives information about other data” (Stone);
6 *whereas* in May 2015, Section 215 of the Patriot Act expired; *whereas* this made the NSA
7 no longer able to collect metadata; *whereas* metadata was used to protect the United States
8 against terrorism, both foreign and domestic.

9

10 **Section 1:** The mass collection of cellphone data, landline data, and internet traffic
11 established by the expired Patriot Act will be reinstated;

12 a. The NSA will be in charge of monitoring the collection of cellphone, landline,
13 and internet traffic data

14 b. Any suspicious activity detected by the advanced algorithms will be
15 investigated by the Federal Bureau of Investigation

16 c. The metadata records will be attained from phone companies and ISP’s

17 i. Companies that do not comply will be charged with Obstruction of
18 Justice by federal courts

19 ii. These organizations will be required to store this data for a minimum of
20 five years

21 d. The NSA must obtain a warrant in order to access the personal identities of those
22 who are deemed suspicious

23

24 **Section 2:** The data collected on each individual, will be archived after 5 years of
25 possession and a new file will be established

26

27 **Section 3:** Funding will be allocated by the Senate Appropriations committee

28

29 **Section 4:** This bill will take effect 91 days after its passage

Brief #1

After 9/11/2001, the United States Government enacted the Patriot Act. Within this Act, there was a section that gave US intelligence permission to seek and question telephone metadata. Metadata is simply “data on data”, supplying the NSA (National Security Agency) with phone numbers, IP addresses, time stamps, etc. This gave detailed information on domestic and foreign telephone communications with the intent of finding threats of terrorism prior to the event of an attack.

In May of 2015, Section 215 of the Patriot Act, the section that gave permission to collect metadata, expired. This means that the NSA is no longer able to collect metadata. Further, the NSA cannot use this type of information collector to protect the United States against terrorism, both domestic and foreign.

It is crucial to understand both sides of the argument and to be able to support your personal position with reasoning as well as have counter-arguments on hand if needed.

Helpful Research Links:

1. <http://www.heritage.org/research/reports/2015/05/section-215-of-the-patriot-act-and-metadata-collection-responsible-options-for-the-way-forward>
2. <https://www.rt.com/usa/323806-nsa-new-phone-surveillance/>
3. <http://www.ibtimes.com/what-metadata-nsa-loses-surveillance-power-american-phone-calls-data-about-data-1947196>
4. <http://2016election.procon.org/view.answers.election.php?questionID=002073>

If you have any questions about this topic or the conference, please feel free to email me at dschansinger18@gmail.com. Happy Debating!

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Department: Homeland Security

Principal Authors: Nicholas Miller

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Title of Bill: An Act to Close Guantanamo Bay

BE IT ENACTED BY THE CIVICS & GOVERNMENT INSTITUTE OF CONGRESS ASSEMBLED

1 Preamble: *Whereas* The Guantanamo Bay detention camp is a United States military
2 prison located within Guantanamo Bay Naval Base; *Whereas* President Barack Obama has
3 stated on several occasions that he is in support of closing the base, and has actively tried
4 to do so; *Whereas* many prisoners are detained at Guantanamo Bay without ever receiving
5 trial; *Whereas* the treatment of prisoners at Guantanamo Bay is often poor and can violate
6 the Geneva Convention; *Whereas* prisoners at Guantanamo Bay are afforded Combatant
7 Status Review Tribunals, however cannot have their own representation at these meetings,
8 and no real way to defend themselves; *Whereas* Guantanamo Bay practices the illegal
9 regime of indefinite detention.

10

11 **Section 1:** Guantanamo Bay detention camp will be closed;

12 a. No more prisoners will be detained at Guantanamo Bay

13 b. The Guantanamo Bay naval base will not be closed in its entirety, only the
14 detention center

15

16 **Section 2:** The United States Government will open a new detention center inside of the
17 continental United States;

18 a. The funding for this new detention center will come from the Department of
19 Defense Budget

20 b. The funding for the current Guantanamo Bay detention camp will be absorbed
21 by the Department of Defense, and will go towards the maintaining of the new
22 center

23

24 **Section 3:** All prisoners currently held at Guantanamo Bay will be transferred to the
25 detention center in the United States

26 a. All prisoners will be given a fair trial in the United States

27 i. Prisoners found innocent will be immediately released from custody

28 b. Any new prisoners detained will be given trials inside of the United States

29

30 **Section 4:** This bill will take effect January 1, 2018

Brief #2

Guantanamo Bay detention center was very much a result of the 9/11 attacks, and represent the nation's mindset in that horrible time. However it has been 15 years and not only the nation's mindset but also the changing global climate has shown that the outdated, and illegal, practices that occur at Guantanamo Bay must be ceased, and the entire detention camp closed. Reports of abuse and torture committed towards inmates at Guantanamo have been released since its opening, and it is time to stop turning a blind eye. President Obama ran in 2008 with the closing of Guantanamo as an issue he was looking to address, and now as his second term comes to a close it is time to put his plan to relocate the camp to the United States into action. The closing of Guantanamo Bay however would be complicated, and the transfer of some of America's most dangerous and influential prisoners even more so. Another thing to consider is the retrofitting of a maximum security prison or the creation of a new facility inside the US will be expensive, and could become a target for terrorism, and threaten homeland Security.

It is important to understand both sides of the argument, and be able to support your position with counter-arguments from the opposing mindset.

Research links

https://www.washingtonpost.com/opinions/why-we-must-close-guantanamo-now/2016/03/01/fe829b80-df0a-11e5-846c-10191d1fc4ec_story.html?utm_term=.5dbdd9dc9b77

<http://www.cnn.com/2013/09/09/world/guantanamo-bay-naval-station-fast-facts/index.html>

<http://www.sfgate.com/entertainment/the-wrap/article/John-Oliver-Makes-Case-to-Close-Guantanamo-Bay-9959420.php>

<http://www.cfr.org/human-rights/should-guantanamo-bay-closed/p21247>

<https://adamsmith.house.gov/media-center/blog/the-cost-of-detention-at-guantanamo-bay>

<http://www.closeguantanamo.org/>

<http://blog.amnestyusa.org/us/10-years-on-10-reasons-guantanamo-must-be-closed/>

If you have any questions concerning the bill, research or the conference, feel free to email me at nmiller266@gmail.com