



NATIONAL SECURITY AGENCY
FORT GEORGE G. MEADE, MARYLAND 20755-6000

MAY 20 2015

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Harry Reid
Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senators McConnell and Reid:

The USA Freedom Act would establish a 180-day period for transitioning from the current bulk-collection program for telephone metadata to a model where queries would be carried out against business records held by telephone service providers. Several questions have been raised about the feasibility of the 180-day deadline.

Should the USA Freedom Act of 2015 become law, NSA assesses that the transition of the program to a query at the provider model is achievable within 180 days, with provider cooperation. We base this judgment on the analysis that we have undertaken on how to make this model work. Upon passage of the law, we will work with the companies that are expected to be subject to Orders under the law by providing them the technical details, guidance, and compensation to create a fully operational query at the provider model. We are aware of no technical or security reasons why this cannot be tested and brought on line within the 180-day period.

We very much appreciate the time and attention the Senate continues to devote to this important issue.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "M.S. Rogers", is written over a horizontal line.

MICHAEL S. ROGERS
Admiral, U.S. Navy
Director, National Security Agency