

citizens second. It still allows decisions about whom to target, and how aggressively to go after acquaintances of acquaintances of targets, to be made by mid-level intelligence community employees, not federal judges. This so-called “two-hops” surveillance casts a very wide net that can reach millions of people.

Most important, the fundamental decisions made under the authorities provided in this bill will be made using a weak, inferior standard that does not reach the probable cause standard. In other words, the government can spy on people based on weak suspicions and not on legally established probable cause.

Now, my friends say, “Don’t let the perfect be the enemy of the good.” The perfect? How could anyone here vote for legislation that doesn’t uphold the constitutional standard of probable cause?

Probable cause has been well established in law for two centuries to keep Americans secure by keeping intelligence and enforcement officers focused on real threats, not on vague suspicions or wild-goose chases. Indeed, the debate over adding a Bill of Rights to the Constitution was about raising the standard for the government’s legal interaction with its citizens, not lowering it as we are now. That standard for the behavior of intelligence and law enforcement officers is not archaic. The power of the government to oppress individuals based on false suspicions is not less, but greater, than when the Constitution and Bill of Rights were written.

The bill also fails to deal with some of the most important abuses revealed over the last year. It provides no protection for national security whistleblowers, whose revelations over the last decade are the only reason why we are finally having such a public debate on this issue. The secrecy of the Intelligence Community is so complete that Congress will never be able to have meaningful oversight without whistleblowers from within the community, and rarely will they speak up without some protection against firing or worse. And human nature has not changed. The propensity for investigators to let their suspicions get the better of them is as great as it ever was—even well intentioned investigators.

The bill also allows the government to continue surreptitiously to compromise encryption and privacy technology built into American electronics and software products, putting at direct risk America’s hi-tech business sector and the jobs it provides.

A decade ago there was a major change in the relationship between Americans and their government. This bill does not correct it. Members should reject this badly flawed bill and the House leadership should allow an open debate on a real surveillance reform bill.

RECOGNIZING THE 23RD ANNUAL
BEST OF RESTON AWARDS FOR
COMMUNITY SERVICE

HON. GERALD E. CONNOLLY

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 23, 2014

Mr. CONNOLLY. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to recognize the recipients of the 23rd Annual

Best of Reston Awards for Community Service. The Best of Reston Awards are the result of collaboration between Cornerstones (formerly Reston Interfaith) and the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce and are presented to individuals, organizations and businesses whose extraordinary efforts make our community a better place. I am pleased to enter the names of the following recipients of the 2014 Best of Reston Awards into the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD:

Individual Community Leader: Carol Ann Bradley. Ms. Bradley has dedicated herself to service both locally and globally. She has worked with Global Camps Africa, the Friends of the Reston Regional Library, the Embury Rucker Community Shelter, the Southgate Community Center, the Reston Community Center, the American Association of University Women, The Links, Inc. and Educators, Then, Now and Forever.

Individual Community Leader: Jerry Ferguson. Mr. Ferguson uses his broadcasting skills to highlight local nonprofits. He is the director of Development and Outreach for Fairfax Public Access, which provides television and radio cablecasting services to the region. As a volunteer he has filmed and produced videos for numerous nonprofits and civic groups.

Individual Community Leader: Cate Fulkerson. Ms. Fulkerson began serving Reston as an entry-level clerk at the Reston Association and climbed the ladder to her present role there, Chief Executive Officer. She also serves as the chair for the Reston Character Counts! Coalition, chairs the annual Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce’s Ethics Day for South Lakes High School, and remains active in Leadership Fairfax.

Individual Community Leader: Bonnie Haukness. Mrs. Haukness has given 40 years of service in many aspects of the Reston community. She is a board member of the Reston Historic Trust and Reston Museum, and she chairs its annual fundraiser, the Reston Homes Tour. She also co-chairs fundraisers for Cornerstones, helps organize the Northern Virginia Fine Arts Festival, and also has led the Friends of Reston’s fundraising event to send children to summer day camp.

Individual Community Leader: Davida Luehrs. Ms. Luehrs is a champion for the visually impaired. She works with the Foundation Fighting Blindness, the American Council for the Blind, and Visually Impaired People of Reston. She has assisted 14 Lions Clubs with hearing and vision screening programs for pre-school children, founded VisionWalk, and chaired Dining in the Dark fundraisers. She is also active in the Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts, school band boards, Reston Swim Team Association, parent teacher associations, blood drives, and meals on wheels.

Civic/Community Leader: HomeAid Northern Virginia. Members of the Northern Virginia Building Industry Association started HomeAid in 2001 to help the homeless gain stability by putting a roof over their head. It currently contributes resources to build and renovate homeless shelters as well as transitional and affordable housing. HomeAid has completed more than 70 projects and served more than 10,000 individuals, work valued at more than \$10.5 million.

Small Business Leader: Brennan & Waite, P.L.C. Founding members (and husband and

wife) Matthew Brennan and Carol Waite have led their firm to support many local causes, including the Greater Reston Chamber of Commerce, Habitat For Humanity, Let’s Help Kids, the Mosaic Harmony Choir, FACETS, Cornerstones, and Leadership Fairfax. Mr. Brennan also developed a training program to help those interested in serving on county and non-profit boards.

Corporate Business Leader Cooley, LLP. This law firm encourages employees to give back to the community by offering paid leave time to volunteer and providing matching funds for money raised by employees to support local causes. Last year the firm contributed more than \$1 million to nonprofits around the United States. The company’s pro bono efforts have led to contributions of more than 33,000 hours by 466 attorneys on more than 687 different pro bono projects per year.

Mr. Speaker, I ask that my colleagues join me in congratulating the 2014 Best of Reston honorees for their continued commitment to our community. I express my sincere gratitude to these individuals, businesses, and organizations for contributing their time and energy to the betterment of our community.

CELEBRATING JEWISH AMERICAN
HERITAGE MONTH

HON. CHERI BUSTOS

OF ILLINOIS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Friday, May 23, 2014

Mrs. BUSTOS. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in celebration of Jewish American Heritage Month this May and to honor the Jewish Americans who have been so instrumental in building and strengthening our country.

Over the past 350 years, Jewish Americans have contributed greatly to history, arts, science, government and culture in our nation and millions have defended and continue to defend this country by serving in our Armed Forces. I am proud to commemorate this month with the Jewish Federation of the Quad-Cities, an organization that has spent over 30 years enriching, educating and supporting the Jewish Community in my district in Illinois.

The impressive contributions of Jewish Americans have also played a vital role in strengthening the important relationship between the United States and the State of Israel. Our country has a long history of supporting and standing with Israel and I was proud to join many of my colleagues on a delegation to Israel during my first year in office. We must preserve our bond into the future as we work together towards the theme of this year’s Heritage Month, which is tikkun olam, repairing the world.

Mr. Speaker, I want to recognize the work of the Jewish Federation of the Quad-Cities and thank all Jewish Americans during this month as we honor their extraordinary contributions to our nation.