



January 8, 2018

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To: The Honorable Nancy Pelosi  
Via email: [Miguel.Guerrero@mail.house.gov](mailto:Miguel.Guerrero@mail.house.gov) and online form: [pelosi.house.gov](http://pelosi.house.gov)  
Re: need for FISA reforms to protect privacy, and ensure accountability and transparency

Dear House Minority Leader Pelosi:

As a company headquartered in San Francisco, we have long appreciated your advocacy for the economic interests, security, and fundamental rights and liberties of our community. We are writing today to express our concerns over unreformed surveillance powers of the National Security Agency, and hope you will represent these concerns when these surveillance powers are voted on in the upcoming weeks.

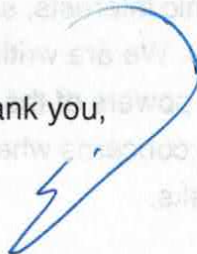
Two-hundred sixty of GitHub's employees live in and near the San Francisco area. Our company was founded 10 years ago, and we provide the world's largest platform for collaborative software development, hosting over 27 million developers and 75 million projects. GitHub's users and customers include individual developers, startups, small businesses, large companies, NGOs, and governments. GitHub-hosted software projects include applications designed for web or mobile devices, as well as the source code that powers entire businesses.

A key provision of NSA surveillance authority known as Section 702 of the FISA Amendments Act is set to expire on January 19, 2018. As you review this authority, we urge you to stand up for the constitutional rights of your constituents and reject any proposal that does not ensure our communications—and the communications of our customers and employees—is safe from warrantless surveillance. Surveillance reauthorization proposals, especially the FISA Amendments Reauthorization Act of 2017 (H.R. 4478), would fall short of safeguarding our privacy. Numerous technology companies like ours, including the Reform Government Surveillance coalition, have opposed H.R. 4478 in its current form.

Other California legislators have already spoken out against the excesses of Section 702 surveillance, including Senator Dianne Feinstein whose 2017 amendment to an NSA surveillance reauthorization bill sought to rein in warrantless access to Americans' communications.

NSA surveillance of American communications strikes at the bedrock of Americans' trust in our democracy. And, controversial surveillance practices could make future customers and their governments hesitate to do business with American Internet companies. Our nation's long-term security is based on its economic strength and the legitimacy of its public institutions. FISA reauthorization must include reforms that protect these pillars, namely provisions that protect privacy and increase accountability and transparency. We appreciate you representing these views as this issue is debated by the House this month.

Thank you,



Tal Niv, VP Law & Policy

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