

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
21 May 2015



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Gun Owners Hail Paul “PATRIOT Act” Filibuster

Lawmakers threaten to spend Memorial Day weekend to extend controversial provisions

Fredericksburg, Va. - Following U.S. Senator Rand Paul’s ten and a half hour talking filibuster last night, U.S. Senate leadership along with proponents of the “PATRIOT Act’s” domestic NSA spying program are scrambling to renew controversial provisions before they expire at the end of the month.

The National Association for Gun Rights is hailing the Paul filibuster as a setback to efforts to renew the anti-gun and anti-freedom law. As of Thursday afternoon, the group had delivered 135,673 petitions against the PATRIOT Act and was still gathering more.

“The PATRIOT Act has long been a threat to our Second Amendment rights,” said NAGR President Dudley Brown, “it’s no surprise so many gun owners are standing with Rand in opposition to these unconstitutional provisions.”

One of the controversial provisions of the PATRIOT Act is Section 215, which allows for the bulk collection of Americans’ communications, including telephone metadata.

During yesterday’s filibuster, members of both parties acknowledged the scope of the bulk data collection under this section may not be limited to just electronic records.

"Government officials could use the PATRIOT Act to collect, collate, and retain medical records, financial records, library records, gun purchase records, you name it!" exclaimed U.S. Senator Ron Wyden (D-Ore.) on the Senate Floor yesterday.

“This is exactly what gun owners are afraid of,” exclaimed Brown, “if the Senate votes for reauthorization, they’ll be voting to give President Obama, or perhaps even someday Hillary Clinton, a blank check on a national gun registry.”

“What Senator Paul did yesterday has given liberty loving Americans and gun owners a fighting chance to end this unconstitutional law,” elaborated Brown, “we’re very grateful to him and will continue to encourage our members and supporters to pressure their Senators to stand with Rand until this law is finally history.”

Download a PDF of this release: http://www.nagr.org/pdf/PR_Patriot_Act_2.pdf

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National Association for Gun Rights
www.nationalgunrights.org