

Action Alert!



STOP S. 139 IN SENATE

Yesterday, the bipartisan group of House Representatives pushing for reforms to protect Americans' privacy and civil liberties [fell short of votes to get an amendment passed to a bill](#) (S. 139) that will reauthorize the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) Amendments Act for another six years. The House passed the bill, legitimately **making the situation worse** by not containing enough reform. Now, the bill heads to the Senate.

MAKE YOUR VOICE HEARD IN THE SENATE

The Senate will vote on the bill S. 139 on **Tuesday, January 16**. Senators Rand Paul (R-KY) and Ron Wyden (D-Ore) have publicly said that they will [filibuster the bill](#). However, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell (R-KY) will seek to shut down debate and forcing a vote by invoking a technical rule called a [cloture](#).

GOAL

Call your Senator **TODAY**. What's needed are **41 Senators to vote against the cloture motion** (to allow for debate on the bill), and then **a simple majority, or 51 Senators to reject S. 139**. When this goal is achieved, then the Senators will have to compromise on the bill, creating an opening for the necessary reforms to be added to the bill.

PHONE SCRIPT

1. Find your Members of Congress [here](#).
2. "I am a constituent from zip code [your zip code]. I am calling to urge the Senator **vote no on cloture on S. 139**, the FISA Amendments Reauthorization Act of 2017, which will come for a vote on Tuesday. In addition, I request the Senator to **reject S. 139** on the grounds that it does not include sufficient reforms to end warrantless government surveillance on Americans, and in particular, protect immigrants from unfair and bias targeting.

Instead, I **urge those reforms advanced by Sens. Paul and Wyden in S. 1997**. Can you tell me what the Senator's position is on the reauthorization of the FISA Amendments Act?"

Note: Please email contact@ApaFisaWatch.org if you get a response.

3. Share this action alert with your friends, neighbors and colleagues.

TWITTER TEXT

Please Tweet to your senators:

Pls vote NO to cloture on S. 139, the FISA bill for warrantless surveillance on Americans. Reject S. 139! Protect privacy & civil liberties!

BACKGROUND

Asian Pacific Americans (APAs) – 59% of whom are foreign born – are susceptible to a cloud of suspicion based on their background, cultural practices and contacts with family and acquaintances overseas. [The recent spike of charges leveled and then dropped against Chinese American scientists](#) are a troubling sign that without additional safeguards in existing law, more innocent Americans in the future may also be subjected to government overreach. [Fifteen Asian American organizations signed a joint letter in support of H.R. 4124](#). Moreover, [over 40 major privacy rights and civil liberties organizations also supported the bill](#).

For more information on this issue, see <http://apafisawatch.org/fisa>. Or, Facebook at <https://www.facebook.com/apafisawatch/>.