

Chairman Burr and Ranking Member Feinstein

ID: LFG-2016-SSCI-0021

Senate Select Committee on Intelligence

211 Hart Senate Office Building

Washington, D.C. 20510

Sent via: Mail

August 10th, 2016

Re: Reject all proposed laws that would approve warrantless internet browser data searches and seizures

Chairman Richard Burr and Ranking Member Dianne Feinstein,

My name is Isaiah X. Smith and I am sending you this letter as for the purpose as to stating my opinion as to the issue that is in regards and pertaining to whether or not government officials, government agencies and contracted individuals with the government of the United States of America should be able to have access to the internet browser data of an individual without a warrant.

Allowing government officials, government agencies and contracted individuals with the government to steal the internet browser history data of an individual without a warrant is extremely concerning, dangerous and that type of conduct opens the door for privacy invasions and unlawful searches and seizures to occur. Even in regards to police officials searching the data on a cell phone of an individual, that police official must obtain a warrant. See *Riley v. California*, 134 S.Ct. 2473, 2493 (2014).

Please note that the purpose of a warrant is to give a judge, not the police, the discretion to decide what places can be searched and which items can be taken. See *Marron v. United States*, 275 U.S. 192, 196 (1927). Warrants have the purpose as to stating what government officials are allowed to search and what they are allowed to seize. See *Andresen v. Maryland*, 427 U.S. 463, 480 (1976). Thus warrantless searches and seizures as to the internet browser data of an individual would negate the purpose of a warrant and would prevent a judicial official from being able to use their fair and just discretionary power as to making sure that searches and seizures are lawful and that they are not abused by the government.

In conclusion I would strongly urge you and all members of the United States Senate Select Committee on Intelligence to reject any proposed law that would allow government officials, government agencies and contracted individuals with the government of the United States of America to be able to conduct warrantless searches and seizures as to the internet browser data of an individual. If the government wants to begin electronic surveillance on a person, they need to get a warrant. See *United States v. U.S. District Court*, 407 U.S. 297 (1972).

Isaiah X. Smith

Respectfully,

Isaiah X. Smith

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