

JON TESTER
MONTANA

COMMITTEES:

APPROPRIATIONS
BANKING
INDIAN AFFAIRS
VETERANS' AFFAIRS
HOMELAND SECURITY AND
GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

United States Senate

SENATE HART BUILDING
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INTERNET:
<http://tester.senate.gov/contact>

December 11, 2013

The Honorable Jim Rokosch, Commissioner
Ravalli County
215 S 4th St Ste A
Hamilton, Montana 59840-2703

Dear Jim,

Thank you for contacting me with your concerns about Iran. I appreciate hearing from you.

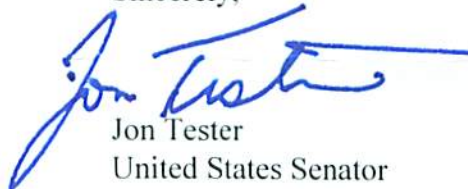
I believe we must pursue diplomatic efforts and engage our allies in order to prevent Iran from acquiring nuclear weapons. U.S. national security is always my primary concern, and diplomacy is our first line of defense. Starting a new conflict in Iran would put our troops in more danger and would also present significant financial challenges at a time when we need to continue to reduce our debt.

That's why I am encouraged by the initial deal reached in November to halt Iran's uranium enrichment program. Under this deal, Iran cannot build or start up more centrifuges used to enrich uranium, and must dilute their existing stocks of uranium. In return for meeting these verifiable goals, the international community will temporarily ease part of the sanctions program.

This deal is just a first step, but it gives us the chance to work toward a more stable and secure Middle East. We have the opportunity to verify that Iran will not pose a threat to its neighbors, and if Iran doesn't hold up its end of the deal, we will have a better opportunity to increase international pressure on the regime.

I will continue to monitor this situation closely. Please don't hesitate to contact me again if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Jon Tester
United States Senator

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December 18, 2013

The Honorable Jim Rokosch, Commissioner
Ravalli County
215 S 4th St Ste A
Hamilton, Montana 59840-2703

Dear Jim,

Thank you for contacting me about the National Security Agency's (NSA) data monitoring of cell phone and internet users. I appreciate hearing from you on this critically important issue.

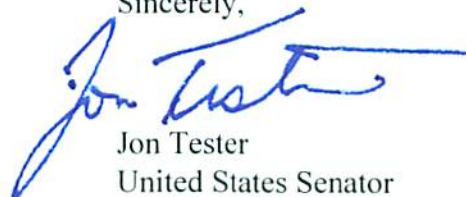
I share your concerns about the impact the NSA's actions have on our privacy rights. While we must keep our families safe, we must balance this need with the fundamental importance of our constitutional rights and civil liberties. That's why I vote against reauthorizing the PATRIOT Act every time it comes before the Senate.

I have also cosponsored the USA FREEDOM Act (S. 1599), which would outlaw the widespread collection of Americans' personal communication and increase transparency of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Courts that authorize this collection.

My bill would stop the NSA's collection of bulk data practices by requiring the agency to prove that it is only seeking information related to a foreign country, person or organization. It must prove that this information is relevant to an actual investigation. Additionally, companies like Google and Yahoo would be able to inform the public when the government asks them to hand over Americans' personal communications. This legislation would help Americans and Congress hold intelligence agencies accountable and better protect privacy rights.

I will keep fighting to protect our rights as this issue comes before the Senate. Please don't hesitate to contact me again if I can be of further assistance.

Sincerely,



Jon Tester
United States Senator

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