

Now, why is that? Well, it goes back to the outdated Electronic Communications Privacy Act of 1986. That act protects the privacy of emails that are less than 6 months old. 1986, those were the days before the World Wide Web even existed. Many of us—I do—have staff that weren't even born before 1986.

We stored letters in folders, filing cabinets, and desk drawers. No one knew what the cloud was because the cloud didn't even exist. There was not any broadband, no social media, no tablets, or smartphones.

The relatively few people who used email—and I remember when email was invented—never imagined keeping emails longer than it took to send it or read it. So it was perfectly reasonable that, in 1986, lawmakers tried to protect emails, but only did so for 180 days. Who would keep anything online for longer than 6 months? Well, three decades later, we know. Everybody stores their emails.

Under current law, every email and text, every Google doc and Facebook message, every photograph of our vacation, is subject to government inspection without a warrant, without probable cause, and without our knowledge if it is older than 6 months. That is an invasion of privacy.

Constitutional protection for 6 months only? That is nonsense.

What is worse, some government agencies don't want the law changed. The Securities and Exchange Commission is lobbying to keep the law on the books. Why does the SEC want to maintain this spying ability? Well, I suspect they want to be able to read our personal financial records and communications without the constitutional protection of a search warrant and without our knowledge. Spying on the citizens by government sounds like conduct reminiscent of the old Soviet Union, to me.

The SEC is not the only government agency that has access to emails over 6 months old.

□ 1045

Any government agency can go and confiscate emails older than 6 months, without a warrant, without probable cause, and without knowledge of the person. This is a clear violation of the Constitution, in my opinion.

Mr. Speaker, if you go back to snail mail and you write a letter and you put a stamp on it and you put it in the mailbox, that letter floats around the fruited plain until it ends up in somebody's possession. Government generally cannot seize that letter without a warrant and go in and snoop around and look in there and see what it is.

Email is a form of communication. Why should government have the ability to snoop around in our personal emails? They don't have that right, even though they have the ability.

Whatever our political disagreements, on both sides, most Americans, I believe, share the conviction that pri-

vacancy is protected by the Fourth Amendment of the U.S. Constitution: to protect us from unreasonable searches and seizures from government; protect us in our persons, houses, papers, and personal effects.

Government agents can't raid homes or tap into phones or read mail without showing a judge they have probable cause that a crime was committed; then a search warrant must be obtained.

Mr. Speaker, I was a judge for 22 years in Texas, and officers would come to me with search warrants, and I would read and see if they had probable cause. If they did, I would sign a warrant. That is what the Constitution requires before you can go snoop around and spy on Americans. Why should our possessions and communications be less private just because they are online?

Well, they shouldn't be. That is why I have teamed up with Representative ZOE LOFGREN, on the other side, and lots of other Members of Congress in both parties, to introduce legislation to update the outdated ECPA law. There is also a bill in the Senate that enjoys the same support.

Our bills restore ECPA's original purpose, to protect privacy in the ways we live, communicate, learn, and transact business and recreate today. This legislation would protect the sacred right of privacy from the ever-increasing spying government trolls in America.

Our mission is simple: extend constitutional protections to communications and records that Americans store online for any amount of time. There is no need to delay. The bill is written. The votes are there. Let's pass the legislation.

Mr. Speaker, technology may change, but the Constitution remains the same. Thomas Jefferson said in the Declaration of Independence:

Government is created to protect our rights.

It is about time we make government protect the right of privacy, rather than violate the right of privacy.

And that is just the way it is.

HONORING THE LIFE AND SERVICE OF DR. ELSON FLOYD

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from Washington (Mr. KILMER) for 5 minutes.

Mr. KILMER. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor Dr. Elson Floyd, the president of Washington State University, who passed away this past weekend.

Let me start with a little bit of background. Every member of my family went to the University of Washington, so I was actually raised to root for the UW Huskies and to root against the Washington State University Cougars.

Now, before Dr. Floyd passed, I admitted to him that, having worked with him over the years and having admired his leadership, I suddenly found

myself rooting for Washington State University, too. You will be glad to know that eventually my family started talking to me again.

I was proud to call Elson Floyd a friend and a partner. He led the university during incredibly difficult times in our economy, and he never hesitated to make tough decisions that he believed would be best for his university and best for his students. That even included cutting his own salary during the Great Recession. He fought for opportunities for his students, and in fact, the number of students of color at WSU doubled during his tenure.

I think it is worth pointing out, he wasn't just a leader for Washington State University, he was a leader and a visionary for all of higher education in Washington State. It wasn't just about what was good for Washington State University, it was what was good for higher education.

How do we make sure we have an ethic where we are advocating for more people to have more opportunities to get more education to higher levels? He understood that. He understood that because he understood that education is the door of economic opportunity because he had lived it himself.

He did all he could to ensure that opportunity was felt, not just in Pullman, Washington, and not just at the University of Washington in Seattle, but all throughout our State. We saw in my neck of the woods at Olympic College in Bremerton where, because of Dr. Floyd's leadership, WSU set up a 4-year program in engineering.

That sounds kind of wonky, but here is the reality of it. What he did changed lives. It meant that young people in Bremerton could see the opportunity to actually learn at home, study for 4 years, get a degree in engineering, and then go work in private industry or go work at our shipyard.

There are now young people who have opportunities that they would have never had before if it hadn't been for Elson Floyd's leadership. What he did changed lives. He was such a good man. He was ethical, and he was wise, and he had that extraordinary combination of big heart and big brain and courage.

His life has been celebrated in the days since he passed, and I just want to be one of the people to celebrate him. I am going to miss him, and I want to extend to the entire WSU community my condolences.

Most importantly, I want his family to know that we lost a very special person and that our thoughts and prayers are with them.

GOVERNMENT WASTE, FRAUD, AND ABUSE

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentlewoman from Tennessee (Mrs. BLACKBURN) for 5 minutes.

Mrs. BLACKBURN. Mr. Speaker, one of the things I hear from my constituents so regularly is: What are you

doing about our Nation's debt? What are you doing about this out-of-control budget?

From time to time, at our committee, we would hold hearings on an inspector general report and actually look at some waste. This started our office thinking and some of us on the Budget Committee thinking about: How do you begin to quantify that and hold these agencies accountable?

As one of my constituents said: You know, it seems that they are always after one of us, a small-business owner, but they never go ask a Federal bureaucrat or a Federal agency to pony up or to pay back money or to be held accountable.

In our office, our interns this summer have worked with us on a project to actually begin to quantify this waste and to look at these inspector general reports.

Mr. Speaker, this is what we found. Just taking the reports from the 70 agencies that have inspector generals and looking at a 4-year period of time, from 2011 to 2014, what we found is this: we could put our finger on \$105.7 billion of waste, and that is \$105.7 billion of waste, of taxpayer money that is being wasted. It has been identified by the inspector general's office. That works out to about \$1.5 billion for each of these 70 agencies.

Now, what was of concern to us was the fact that many of these agencies are doing nothing about it; and we found that, when you look at the reports that have been issued, which total 81 different reports, the reports for which a management decision was made during the reporting period was only 30 of those reports.

Mr. Speaker, 30 times, management said that they are going to go in and they are going to take an action in response to the recommendations that the inspector general has found.

Now, one of the things that we looked at was where these wasteful occurrences continue to happen and who are the repeat offenders when you look at these IG reports.

Let me give you some examples, Mr. Speaker. Department of Defense, \$38.2 billion that has been identified—this is one of the reasons that Republicans are pushing to audit the DOD and hold people accountable for the wasteful spending.

Health and Human Services, \$10.3 billion—we found that \$2 billion went toward the ObamaCare Web site, which still is barely working.

Department of Agriculture, \$9.2 billion; Social Security Administration, \$9.1 billion; Department of Energy, \$7.7 billion—and by the way, Solyndra, a green energy firm, filed for bankruptcy in September 2011, after they got 536 million taxpayer dollars. The list goes on and on.

What we are going to do—and I commend Chairman PRICE for pushing forward to hold some hearings with these inspector generals, with these departments, to drill down on the total num-

ber of reports and to hold them accountable for not taking an action and looking for ways that we, as Members of Congress, can charge back these agencies for the continued misuse—not occasional misuse, not one time misuse, but continued misuse of taxpayer dollars.

When you look at the list of these agencies and what they have done, year after year, there are some of these agencies that end up in the top 10 offenders every year—2014, Department of Defense, HUD, Health and Human Services, Department of Energy, Social Security, Department of Agriculture, VA, Homeland Security, Department of Education, Department of State, and the Agency for International Development.

You can look at 2013, continuing down the list, the top 10 again, Defense, HUD, Energy, Health and Human Services, Railroad Retirement Board, Homeland Security, Agriculture, Social Security Administration, Department of Education, and Department of State—repeated waste, fraud, and abuse of the taxpayer money.

When I came to Congress in January 2003, our freshman class decided our project was going to be rooting out wasteful Washington spending. We continue to be committed to that, and I submit our findings to the body for their review and understanding.

INSPECTOR GENERAL REPORTS—WASTE, FRAUD, AND ABUSE

2011–2014

Total waste (70 agencies) = \$105.7 billion
Average waste of the 70 agencies = \$1.5 billion

Waste by year:

Our findings
2011 = \$20.1 billion
2012 = \$19.5 billion
2013 = \$40.9 billion
2014 = \$25.2 billion

Council of the Inspectors General on Integrity & Efficiency

2011 = \$17.2 billion
2012 = \$12.8 billion
2013 = \$35.1 billion
2014 = n/a

11 agencies accumulated over \$1 billion in waste over the 4 years:

1. Dept. of Defense—\$38.2 billion
 2. Dept. of Health & Human Services—\$10.3 billion
 3. Dept. of Agriculture—\$9.2 billion
 4. Social Security Administration—\$9.1 billion
 5. HUD—\$ 7.7 billion
 6. Dept. of Energy—\$7.7 billion
 7. Dept. of Homeland Security—\$5.9 billion
 8. VA—\$3.9 billion
 9. Dept. of Education—\$3.2 billion
 10. Railroad Retirement Board—\$2.5 billion
 11. Dept. of State—\$1.1 billion
- Top 10 in 2014 Total Waste
1. Dept. of Defense—\$10.4 billion
 2. HUD—\$2.9 billion
 3. Dept. Health & Human Services—\$2.7 billion
 4. Dept. of Energy—\$2.6 billion
 - S. Social Security Administration—\$2.5 billion
 6. Dept. of Agriculture—\$992.7 million
 7. VA—\$957.1 million
 8. Dept. of Homeland Security—\$345.5 million
 9. Dept. of Education—\$273.4 million

10. Dept. of State—\$264.8 million
 11. Agency for International Development—\$202.9 million
- Top 10 in 2013 Total Waste
1. Dept. of Defense—\$23.9 billion
 2. HUD—\$2.9 billion
 3. Dept. of Energy—\$2.6 billion
 4. Dept. of Health and Human Services—\$2.5 billion
 5. Railroad Retirement Board—\$2.2 billion
 6. Dept. of Homeland Security—\$1.6 billion
 7. Dept. of Agriculture—\$1.5 billion
 8. Social Security Administration—\$1.4 billion
 9. Dept. of Education—\$606.6 million
 10. Dept. of State—\$266.1 million
- Top 10 in 2012 Total Waste
1. Social Security Administration—\$3.4 billion
 2. Dept. of Defense—\$3.0 billion
 3. Dept. of Homeland Security—\$2.3 billion
 4. Dept. of Health & Human Services—\$2.3 billion
 5. Dept. of Agriculture—\$2.0 billion
 6. HUD—\$1.4 billion
 7. Dept. of Energy—\$1.2 billion
 8. Dept. of Education—\$999.4 million
 9. Securities and Exchange Commission—\$557.1 million
 10. Treasury Inspector General on Tax Administration—\$404.2 million
- Top 10 in 2011 Total Waste
1. Dept. of Agriculture—\$4.7 billion
 2. Dept. of Health & Human Services—\$2.9 billion
 3. VA—\$2.8 billion
 4. Social Security Administration—\$1.8 billion
 5. Dept. of Homeland Security—\$1.6 billion
 6. Dept. of Education—\$1.3 billion
 7. Dept. of Energy—\$1.2 billion
 8. Dept. of Defense—\$979 million
 9. Securities and Exchange Commission—\$566.9 million
 10. HUD—\$395.9 million
- Other agencies total waste 2011–2014 (no particular order). . . .
- EPA—\$404.7 million
 - FCC—\$24.4 million
 - Dept. of Labor—\$147.1 million
 - Dept. of Treasury—\$38.9 million
 - Dept. of Commerce—\$467.1 million
 - Dept. of Transportation—\$478.4 million.

RECOGNIZING THE SERVICE OF KEN FARFSING

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. LOWENTHAL) for 5 minutes.

Mr. LOWENTHAL. Mr. Speaker, today, I rise to recognize Mr. Ken Farfsing, upon his retirement as the city manager of the city of Signal Hill, California, which will be this coming week, on June 30.

I have had the pleasure of working with Ken on local and statewide issues for almost 20 years, while I served on the Long Beach City Council, as a member of the California State Legislature, and now, as a Member of the United States Congress. I consider Ken to be a dear friend.

Ken has served for over 33 years, in community development, redevelopment, economic development, and city management in five southern California communities. He has spent the last 19 years, however, serving the city of Signal Hill, and I am honored to recognize his outstanding career.

Ken began his career with the city of Santa Fe Springs in California in 1981