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## **Hoekstra: FISA Law Failed Kidnapped Soldiers**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Pete Hoekstra, R-Mich., the top Republican on the House Intelligence Committee, issued the following statement in response to Democrats' cold failure to realize the negative impact of legal restrictions in the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act on the real-life rescue of soldiers kidnapped by al-Qaeda terrorists:

“Nothing in the Democrat ‘fact sheet’ refutes the fundamental point that lawyers required hours to determine whether the legal requirements of FISA were met before America’s intelligence agencies could conduct surveillance to help rescue our kidnapped soldiers.

“This is another sad effort to deflect attention from the fact that Democrats for months refused to deal with the urgent terrorist surveillance problems raised by Admiral Mike McConnell, which certainly impacted the ability to collect intelligence related to the kidnapped soldiers.

“Instead of passing permanent, comprehensive modernization of America’s terror surveillance laws to help prevent future attacks, the bill under consideration this week is only a temporary measure that adds more layers of legal requirements and court reviews.

“Just as we did with the Protect America Act, Republicans are committed to passing a permanent fix of America’s terror surveillance laws that keeps the terrorist loophole closed and ensures that our intelligence community never again has to leave our soldiers behind.”

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Editor’s Note: A timeline of Republican efforts to address the FISA problems identified by Adm. Mike McConnell, Director of National Intelligence, on April 12, before the soldiers were kidnapped, is attached.