



The Senate Finance Committee is set to hear a bill Friday, April 9, that contains a provision similar to the USA PATRIOT Act. Section 19 of Senate Bill 222 would authorize the Attorney General to issue his own administrative subpoenas, without going to any court for judicial review.

This type of power has been repeatedly abused by the FBI, and – if passed – would lead to abuses here in Alaska. As the *New York Times* recently reported:

The Federal Bureau of Investigation improperly obtained calling records for more than 3,500 telephone accounts from 2003 to 2006 without following any legal procedures, according to a newly disclosed report by the Justice Department’s inspector general. . . . phone employees turned over customer calling records . . . On some occasions, the phone employees allowed the F.B.I. to upload call records to government databases. On others, they allowed agents to view records on their computer screens, a practice that became known as “sneak peeks.” Moreover, the report found that the F.B.I. improperly uploaded into its databases large numbers of calling records ***without determining whether they were relevant to an investigation.***

<http://www.nytimes.com/2010/01/21/us/21fbi.html>

PLEASE CALL SENATE FINANCE MEMBERS TODAY AND TELL THEM ALASKANS VALUE OUR PRIVACY AND TRUST OUR COURTS TO REVIEW WARRANTS!

CO-CHAIRS:

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MEMBERS:

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Senator Huggins 907-465-3878 Senator Olson 907-465-3707
Senator Thomas 907-465-2327

The DOJ report is available at: <http://www.justice.gov/oig/special/s1001r.pdf>.

SB 222 is available at: <http://www.legis.state.ak.us/PDF/26/Bills/SB0222B.PDF>

The ACLU’s complete testimony on the bill is available at: www.akclu.org.