

The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. PAUL. Reserving the right to object, we have entered into a momentous debate. This is a debate about whether or not a warrant with a single name of a single company can be used to collect all of the records—all of the phone records—of all of the people in our country with a single warrant.

Our forefathers would be aghast. One of the things they despised was general warrants. This is a debate that should be had. The reason I am objecting is because I have made a very simple request—to have amendments, to have them voted on, and to have a guarantee that they are voted on.

I started out the day with a request for six amendments. I am willing to compromise to have two amendments and a simple majority vote.

I think that is a very reasonable position. And if we can't have that and we can't have an extensive debate over something we have had 4 years to prepare for, I will object, and I do.

I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I renew my unanimous consent request with an amendment to extend expiring authorities until June 5.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. WYDEN. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The majority leader.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I renew my unanimous consent request with an amendment to extend expiring authorities until June 3.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. PAUL. Mr. President, I will defer to the Senator from New Mexico if he wishes to make an objection.

Mr. HEINRICH. Mr. President, I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I renew my unanimous consent request with an amendment to extend expiring authorities until June 2.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Kentucky.

Mr. PAUL. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The majority leader.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I enter my motion to reconsider.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The motion is entered.

Mr. McCONNELL. I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Mr. McCONNELL. I object.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Objection is heard.

The legislative clerk continued with the call of the roll.

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, here is where we are. We are unable to clear any short-term extension, and the current law expires at midnight on Sunday. So the Senate will be back in session Sunday afternoon—a week from Sunday—on May 31, with one more opportunity to act responsibly and not allow this program to expire.

This is a high-threat period. We know what is going on overseas. We know what has been tried here at home. Do we really want this law to expire?

We have 1 week to discuss it. We will have 1 day to do it. So we better be ready next Sunday afternoon to prevent the country from being in danger by the total expiration of the program we are all familiar with.

Unless there is objection, and I understand there is not an objection, we will pass the highway extension on a voice vote tonight and we will be back in session Sunday a week.

Mr. REID. Will my friend yield for a question?

Mr. McCONNELL. I yield for a question.

Mr. REID. We would be happy to cooperate in passing a surface transportation bill by voice, but I do say this—and I mentioned this to my colleague away from the microphones. For those of us living in the West, we cannot get back on a Sunday afternoon. I think it is very difficult for us to get back here on a weekday before 5 o'clock, so I would hope on a Sunday we wouldn't be expecting the Senate to come in session before 5 o'clock because we can't get here.

I am protecting the western part of my caucus, which is pretty big, but I am not going to agree to anything unless we can come in at least after 5 o'clock.

Mr. McCONNELL. Well, as my friend the Democratic leader knows, I would be happy to work with him on that. He also knows I just tried to get a short-term extension of a variety of different lengths in order not to put us in this position, but we are left with this option only.

We will work with the Democratic leader about the actual time, but the law expires at midnight Sunday a week. I doubt if there are many of us comfortable with that—maybe a handful—but we need to act responsibly here on behalf of the American people.

Mr. REID. I agree.

#### MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Sen-

ate proceed to a period of morning business, with Senators permitted to speak for up to 10 minutes each.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### ORDER OF BUSINESS

Mr. McCONNELL. Mr. President, I am not sure I made it clear to everyone that there will be no more votes tonight. We will see you in a week.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The Senator from North Carolina.

Mr. BURR. Mr. President, I suggest the absence of a quorum.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The clerk will call the roll.

The senior assistant legislative clerk proceeded to call the roll.

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the order for the quorum call be rescinded.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

#### NATIONAL SECURITY LEGISLATION

Ms. MIKULSKI. Mr. President, I wanted to speak earlier because I wanted to encourage my colleagues on both sides of the aisle to come to a resolution on this problem. We cannot let this country go dark in terms of its ability to do its duty to defend the United States of America. We have to get off of what we are doing here and start getting down to the business of what we need to do.

I have to believe that tonight the world is watching us and they are saying: There goes the United States Senate, and there they go home, ha, ha, ha. They have a program that someone tried to render helpless in terms of our ability to protect ourselves. Edward Snowden literally tried to disgrace the United States.

Now here we are working on a program that went through the respective committees, that has the sound and sensible solution, and we have rejected it.

I am not here to talk about the program, but I will tell you whom I am ready to talk about—the thousands and thousands and thousands of people who work at the National Security Agency, and I want to talk about what they go through every day. They are out there working a 36-hour day trying to defend the United States of America, and they want to work under a law that is constitutional, is legal, is authorized, so they can do the necessary work to defend the United States of America. They thought they were doing that under the old FISA bill. They thought they were doing that. They were proud of what they were doing. They mustered everything they could give to this country. Then along comes Eric Snowden. Then along come the leaks. Then along comes the pontificating about “My, my, my, we have to worry about privacy.”

I worry about privacy, too, but I also worry about the safety and security of