



## 22 House Intel Members Withheld FISA Memo Passed Vote to Expand NSA Powers

Judge Napolitano accused the 22 House Intel members of delaying the release of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) memo to keep 500 Congressmen in the dark about domestic spying abuses. He contends that Congress would not have voted to expand the FISA program, as it did seven days earlier, if the memo had been released prior to the vote. He concludes that the intelligence community, which is supposed to be regulated by Congress, actually is controlling Congress.  
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Fox News legal analyst Judge Andrew Napolitano claimed that House members delayed the release of the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) memo because they wanted to expand FISA powers and were afraid the political fallout from the memo would have killed the bill.

“Ignorant of the hot potato on which the House Intelligence Committee had been sitting, Congress recently passed and President Donald Trump signed a vast expansion of spying authorities,” Napolitano [wrote in a Wednesday op-ed](#). “The FISA expansion would never have passed the Senate had the House Intelligence Committee memo and the data on which it is based come to light seven days sooner than it did.”

“Why should 22 members of a House committee keep their 500-

plus congressional colleagues in the dark about domestic spying abuses while those colleagues were debating the very subject matter of domestic spying and voting to expand the power of those who have abused it?" Napolitano added.

[Napolitano](#) thinks the culture of the intelligence community has taken a dark turn and has exerted its authority over America's elected officials.

"The NSA shows its might to the legislators who supposedly regulate it. In reality, the NSA regulates them," Napolitano wrote. "This is but one facet of the deep state – the unseen parts of the government that are not authorized by the Constitution and that never change, no matter which party controls the legislative or executive branch. This time, they almost blew it. If just one conscientious senator had changed her or his vote on the FISA expansion – had that senator known of the NSA and FBI abuses of FISA concealed by the House Intelligence Committee – the expansion would have failed."

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