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## **CONGRESSWOMAN DONNA EDWARDS VOTES AGAINST FISA AMENDMENT**

*Edwards Concludes That Retroactive Immunity Is Too Much To Offer  
Telecommunications Companies.*

**Washington, D.C.** – In just her second day as Representative for Maryland’s 4<sup>th</sup> Congressional District, Congresswoman Donna Edwards (D-MD) voted against “H.R. 6304: To Amend the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act of 1978,” which allows for the dismissal of all cases against telecommunications companies that have been accused of warrantless wiretapping over the past seven years. Further, the Amendment undermines court review by permitting the government to continue surveillance programs even if the application is denied by the court, giving the government the ability to conduct surveillance operations throughout the entire appeals process.

“For me, the distinctions are clear,” said Edwards. “The constituents that I represent feel strongly that we can not compromise when it comes to protecting our civil liberties or providing retroactive immunity to telecommunications companies that have broken the law. No one denies the importance of combating terrorism and ensuring the protection of the United States and its citizens, but we can not sacrifice fundamental, constitutional rights in the name of fighting terrorism.”