

# NSA INTERNAL WATCHDOG ACT

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The Cooper-Smith (TX)-Himes NSA Internal Watchdog Act creates a **Presidentially-appointed, Senate-confirmed Inspector General**, placing a true watchdog with teeth inside NSA who will be accountable to Congress and the American people.

## **NSA Internal Watchdog Act Highlights:**

This bill creates an 'IG on steroids,' ensuring the NSA IG has sharp teeth.

The new NSA IG will be able to:

- Ensure all NSA programs and activities comply with our laws and Constitution.
- Recommend new NSA policies to protect our civil rights and civil liberties.
- Undertake, immediately after Senate confirmation, a comprehensive review of the programs involved in the Snowden leaks, including the NSA's compliance or non-compliance with FISA court orders.
- Exercise subpoena power to require contractors and former NSA employees to give testimony in IG investigations, a power that no IG other than the DOD IG currently has.
- Prevent personal snooping or any other misuses of NSA programs by rogue employees and contractors, such as investigating ex-spouses.
- Recommend improvements to whistleblower reporting, security clearance and background check procedures.
- Challenge, through Congress, any attempted prohibition of an IG audit or investigation due to alleged national security grounds.