

NSA SUPPORTS ENACTMENT OF THE “DO NOT TRACK ACT”

WHEREAS, S.1578, the “Do Not Track Act”, has been Sponsored by Sen. Josh Hawley [MO] and Co-sponsored by Sen. Dianne Feinstein [CA] and Sen. Mark Warner [VA], and has been referred for action to the Senate Commerce, Science, and Transportation Committee;

WHEREAS, the Do Not Track Act is “A BILL To protect the privacy of internet users through the establishment of a national Do Not Track system, and for other purposes”;

WHEREAS, the European Union General Data Protection Regulation (GDPR) “purpose limitation” provision effectively requires that most US firms clearly disclose their purposes for collecting and using private data and that private data collected for one purpose not be used for another;

WHEREAS, currently, some online providers harvest, use and sell online users’ location and other private personal data, including very sensitive location information about law enforcement personnel and their families, under undisclosed and almost entirely unregulated data harvesting, use and sale practices commonly used by the Internet industry;

WHEREAS, Sheriffs and other law enforcement personnel and their families are particularly vulnerable to criminal targeting schemes that can be carried out using user location and other data currently harvested, used and sold by Internet industry firms under these Internet industry data harvesting, use and sale practices;

WHEREAS, the Do Not Track Act would require the Federal Trade Commission to implement and enforce a “Do Not Track” system to protect users from unwanted online data harvesting, unwanted targeted advertising, and unwanted sale of user data, and mandates that covered websites, services, and applications disclose to users the data harvesting, use and sale practices and the user protections afforded by the DNT system;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the National Sheriffs’ Association supports enactment of the Do Not Track Act as a much-needed protection of consumers, including law enforcement personnel and their families, against undisclosed and unwanted Internet surveillance. The National Sheriffs’ Association further urges Congress and Federal Regulators to act to protect consumers, including law enforcement personnel and their families, against unwanted and potentially very dangerous online data harvesting, use and sale of user location and other personal data.