Dear Senator Peters

I, being of a bashful and quiet manner, am not accustomed to taking part in political and social controversies. Therefore, I am quite surprised at the fact that I am sitting at my desk writing you this letter. Although I do not usually bother to acknowledge these matters, I need to express my feelings towards the Freedom Act as it was recently passed by Congress and signed into law by President Barack Obama. Why was the Patriot Act not renewed? Why must we give in to the hysterical cries of ”Big Brother” every time the United States tries to protect its people?

Now, Mr. Peters, you may be asking yourself why I have decided to voice my concerns to you about this decision. Although I cannot force you to reconsider passing this act, I hope you will give me the chance to support my reasons for disagreeing with it, and perhaps encourage you to support more strict controls in the future.

To better understand the outrage created by the passing of the weakened Freedom Act, revisit September, 11, 2001. As we both know, the bombings of the World Trade Center and the Pentagon were devastating and led to the deaths of over 2,000 Americans. The thousands of casualties that day were average citizens. They had families, jobs, and dreams. Now, just imagine if the NSA could have searched through any phone records and discovered the plans of the American citizens assisting Al-Qaeda. Lives would have been saved and the nation would avoid the complete terror that followed the attack. Do you think that the people killed that day would exchange their phone records for their lives? The families of these innocent victims certainly would.

By stopping the NSA from accessing all phone records, the U.S is limiting the opportunity to prevent future bombings, school shootings, murders, etc. The revised Freedom Act puts our lives at risk and allows criminals to feel more confident in planning these horrendous acts.

Much of the concern among the people who object to monitoring is directed towards the invasion of their privacy. However, the NSA’s main goal is not to overstep personal boundaries; by collecting call logs they are in fact protecting our privacy and wellbeing from the people who are abusing their liberties to harm others and perform illegal actions. By renewing the Patriot Act, you would have prevented future violence. You would have saved lives, helped protect students and school personnel, and provided safety to your fellow Americans.

I hope that the issues mentioned in this letter will make you reconsider your position and consider future legislation to strengthen the National Security Agency.