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Brian Bosma House speaker on some Republicans who are still not behind highway plan

Daniels to promote highway proposal

By Mike Smith THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

INDIANAPOLIS

An offshoot off Gov. Mitch Daniels' transition committee will begin an advertising campaign this weekend in hopes of building public and legislative support for his major highway proposal as it approaches a key hurdle in the General Assembly next week.

Shortly after the Republican governor revealed news of the ad campaign Friday, Republican House Speaker Brian Bosma suggested that so far, he was not sure all of his fellow members of his party, which controls the chamber 52-48, were committed to backing the plan.

It must receive 51 votes by midnight Thursday to advance to the Senate, and House Minority Leader Patrick Bauer said this week that he believes all 48 Democratic House members will vote against it. They especially oppose Daniels' desire to lease the Indiana Toll Road in northern Indiana to an Australian-Spanish consortium for \$3.85 billion, something he could not do unless the bill passes the Legislature.

When asked whether Republican House members were firmly behind the plan, Bosma replied, "Generally I would say yes." But, he said, "There are some folks up in northern Indiana that are waiting for public opinion on this matter to be reinforced."

Bill Oesterle, who managed Daniels' 2004 campaign for governor, said the ad campaign will cost about \$100,000 and be paid for by groups who back the highway plan and had contributed to Aiming Higher, the offshoot of the governor's transition committee. He said the campaign would begin Sunday and include newspaper and radio ads.

Daniels says the proposed, 75-year toll road lease with Statewide Mobility Partners would provide \$3.85 billion in upfront money that would help finance hundreds of road and bridge projects. He also says the plan, dubbed "Major Moves," will create tens of thousands of jobs.

Daniels said he was continuing his personal lobbying efforts with legislators who either oppose the plan or are still undecided.

"I'm trying to be patient and charitable as I listen to folks propose to shoot their own districts in both feet and every other extremity," Daniels said.



AP PHOTO

Gov. Mitch Daniels is working to promote his highway plan. He will be using radio and TV ads in an effort to sway legislators.

What you should know about domestic spying

By Katherine Shrader THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON

The Bush administration faces daily questions about a highly secretive program at the National Security Agency aimed at monitoring terror suspects. Is it legal? Who's targeted?

Some questions and answers about the domestic surveillance program launched shortly after Sept. 11:

Q: Can the NSA eavesdrop on Americans?

A: Generally, it is prohibited without a court order. But under a directive signed by President Bush, and renewed more than 30 times, the National Security Agency can monitor the international communications of people inside the country, when one party to the call or e-mail is believed to be involved with al-Qaida.

Q: How many people are affected?

A: Only a tight-knit group of government officials know, and they won't say. Attorney General Alberto Gonzales and other senior officials have insisted the program is targeted to go after only the most dangerous types of communications, those that may involve al-Qaida inside the United States.

Q: What did Bush's directive change?

A: In national security investigations, the program eliminated the need to go before a judge for approval of surveillance on U.S. residents.

Q: Who decides who is monitored?

A: Last month, Gen. Michael V. Hayden, the government's No. 2 intelligence official, said an NSA shift supervisor makes the call. The former NSA director rephrased his answer this week, saying only a small group of senior military officers

or civilian counterterror experts at NSA get to decide, using criteria that has not been disclosed.

Q: How does the surveillance work?

A: Officials won't say. But Hayden said the NSA is not vacuuming up vast amounts of communications and running searches on it.

Q: Has the program foiled terrorist attacks?

A: Administration officials say they have gotten valuable information that otherwise would have gone unnoticed. For security reasons, they do not provide specifics.

Q: Why the uproar?

A: For the administration's critics, the program harkens back to the Nixon administration's wiretapping. It also raises constitutional questions about whether the monitoring is an unreasonable search, prohibited under the Constitution's Fourth Amendment.

Q: Was Congress told?

A: The administration says that

members of Congress were briefed more than a dozen times. However, only select lawmakers were present.

Called the "Gang of Eight," they include the top Republicans and Democrats in the House and Senate and on the intelligence committees.

Q: Has anyone who has been briefed on the program called for its halt?

A: No. Democrats, including California Rep. Jane Harman, the intelligence committee's top Democrat, have complained about the size of the briefings and legal questions they want answered. But none has said the program should end.

Q: Did the White House consider asking Congress to change the law?

A: Yes. Although Bush says he has adequate legal authority now, Gonzales said the administration considered proposing changes to

the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act in 2004. The attorney general said congressional leaders believed that move would jeopardize the program.

Q: Some people have sued the government, saying they believe their conversations might have been intercepted. How can they know?

A: They can't. At least two federal lawsuits are based on a belief that the individuals may have engaged in conversations that would have attracted the NSA's attention.

If the courts allow the cases to proceed, the government may be forced to disclose information about the program and its targets.

Q: What is the NSA anyway?

A: The NSA is the largest of the nation's 15 spy agencies. Its 30,000 workers worldwide are charged with protecting U.S. information systems and eavesdropping on adversaries.

U.S. Army used Iraqi wives as bait to lure insurgents

Papers document two women held

By Charles J. Hanley THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

The U.S. Army in Iraq has at least twice seized and jailed the wives of suspected insurgents in hopes of leveraging their husbands into surrender, U.S. military documents show.

Iraqi human rights activist Hind al-Salehi contends that U.S. anti-insurgent units, coming up empty-handed in raids on sus-

pects' houses, have at times detained wives to pressure men into turning themselves in.

A U.S. command spokesman in Baghdad, Lt. Col. Barry Johnson, said only Iraqis who pose an imperative threat are held in long-term U.S.-run detention facilities. But documents describing two 2004 episodes tell a different story as far as short-term detentions go.

The documents are among hundreds the Pentagon has released under U.S. court order to meet an American Civil Liberties Union request for information on detention practices.

In one memo, a civilian Pent-

agon intelligence officer described what happened when he took part in a raid on an Iraqi suspect's house in Tarmiya, northwest of Baghdad, on May 9, 2004.

The raid involved Task Force 6-26, a secretive military unit formed to handle high-profile targets.

"During the pre-operation brief it was recommended by TF personnel that if the wife were present, she be detained and held in order to leverage the primary target's surrender," wrote the 14-year veteran officer.

He said he objected, but when they raided the house the team leader, a senior sergeant, seized

her anyway. She was held for two days and was released after he complained, he said.

Like most names in the released documents, the officer's signature is blacked out on this for-the-record memorandum about his complaint.

Of this case, command spokesman Johnson said he could not judge, months later, the factors that led to the woman's detention.

The second episode, in June 2004, is found in e-mail exchanges among six U.S. Army colonels, discussing an undisclosed number of female detainees held in northern Iraq by the Stryker Brigade of the 2nd Infantry Division.

The first message, from a military police colonel, advised staff officers of the U.S. northern command that the Iraqi police would not take control of the jailed women without charges being brought against them.

In a second e-mail, a command staff officer asked an officer of the unit holding the women, "What are you guys doing to try to get the husband, have you tacked a note on the door and challenged him to come get his wife?"

Of this episode, Johnson said, "It is clear the unit believed the females detained had substantial knowledge of insurgent activity and warranted being held."

Democrats squabble over Alito filibuster

By David Esposito THE ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON

Long-smoldering Democratic dissension flared openly Friday as liberals sought support for a last-minute filibuster of Supreme Court nominee Samuel Alito against the advice of leaders worried about a backlash in the 2006 elections.

"I reject those notions that there ought to somehow be some political calculus about the future. ... The choice is now," said Massachusetts Sen. John Kerry, the party's 2004 presidential candidate and a White House hopeful for 2008. He said it was imperative to fight for "those people who count on us to stand up and protect them."

Two of the party's Senate leaders, Harry Reid of Nevada and Charles Schumer of New York, privately made clear their unhappiness with the strategy, even though they, too, oppose Alito's confirmation. And Rep. Harold Ford, seeking a Senate seat in Republican-leaning Tennessee, dismissed the filibuster approach openly.

"It does not appear that there is any reason to hold up a vote. I hope my colleagues in the Senate will move quickly to bring this process to a dignified end," he said.

Despite a decision by Kerry, Massachusetts Sen. Edward M. Kennedy and others to try and block a final vote, leaders of both parties agreed that Alito's confirmation was assured for next Tuesday.

The 55-year-old appeals court judge would replace Sandra Day O'Connor, who has cast deciding



AP PHOTO

Sen. John Kerry, R-Mass., is working to gain support for a filibuster against Supreme Court nominee Samuel Alito.

votes in recent years in 5-4 rulings on controversial issues such as abortion rights, affirmative action and the death penalty.

Democrats fear he would shift the court rightward on those and other issues.

Because of moves by Kerry, Kennedy and others, supporters of Alito's nomination must produce 60 votes on Monday to advance his nomination.

Reid announced he would side with Alito's critics on Monday, though on Thursday he had made clear his unhappiness with their strategy.

"There has been adequate time for people to debate," he had said Thursday. "I hope this matter will be resolved without too much more talking."

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