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Hidden Location Tracking Raises Concerns

Washington, D.C. – Tech website <u>Gizmodo</u> is reporting this afternoon that Apple iPhone's have been internally tracking and storing user's locations, using cell phone tower triangulation, and travels in unencrypted files on iPhones and subsequently on an iPhone user's computer. The discovery was made by two security researchers and raises serious privacy concerns for Apple customers since the activity has never been disclosed. Rep. Jay Inslee (WA-01), a member of the House Energy and Commerce committee and a leader on technology and privacy issues released the following statement:

"I'm deeply disturbed by this report. I have been concerned that current law fails to ensure consumers are protected from privacy violations. Consumers are often left to learn of these breaches of privacy from hackers and security experts because companies fail to disclose what data they are collecting and for what purpose."

"I intend to ask Apple and the federal agencies charged with oversight some very direct questions to understand the frequency and extent of this data collection and the use, protection and sharing of this sensitive information. This episode, and many others, illustrates the need for enhanced government oversight of data collection activities. As a result, I am working on comprehensive privacy legislation that will empower consumers with real information and protections against privacy violations."