

JAN 23 2008

The Honorable Harry Reid
Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Republican Leader
United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Reid and Senator McConnell:

We are writing to add our views to those expressed in the September 26, 2007 letter from the Department of Justice in strong opposition to S. 2035, the "Free Flow of Information Act" and earlier Justice letters strongly opposing its counterpart in the House of Representatives, H.R. 2102. As the Acting Principal Deputy Director of National Intelligence noted in his letters of September 27, 2007, the Intelligence Community is concerned that these bills will undermine our ability to protect intelligence sources and methods and could seriously impede national security investigations.

The Intelligence Community understands the tension that can exist between the public's desire for information and the need to protect national security. Indeed, it is one that we struggle with on a daily basis. However, the high burden placed on the Government by these bills will make it difficult, if not impossible, to investigate harms to the national security and only encourage others to illegally disclose the Nation's sensitive secrets. These problems, in turn, will impair our ability to collect vital foreign intelligence, including through critical relationships with foreign governments which are grounded in confidence in our ability to protect information from public disclosure.

Safeguarding classified information in a free and open society already is a challenge for the Intelligence Community. We ask that Congress not make that challenge

The Honorable Harry Reid and The Honorable Mitch McConnell

even more daunting. For these reasons and those set out by the Department of Justice, we urge you to reject S. 2035 and H.R. 2102, as currently drafted.

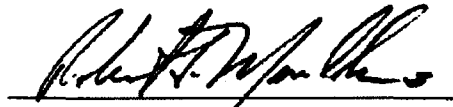
Sincerely,



J.M. McConnell
Director of National Intelligence
Intelligence



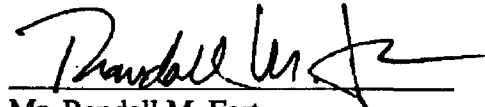
James R. Clapper, Jr.
Under Secretary of Defense
for Intelligence



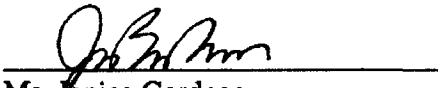
Mr. Robert Mueller
Director, FBI




General Michael V. Hayden
Director, CIA



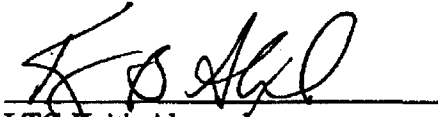
Mr. Randall M. Fort
Assistant Secretary of State,
Intelligence and Research



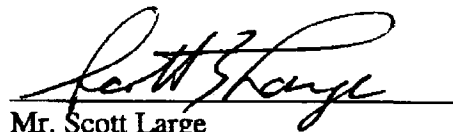
Ms. Janice Gardner
Assistant Secretary for Intelligence
and Analysis, Treasury



Mr. Charlie Allen
Under Secretary for Intelligence
and Analysis, DHS



LTC Keith Alexander
Director, NSA



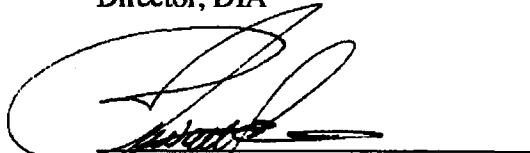
Mr. Scott Large
Director, NRO



LTG Michael Maples
Director, DIA



VADM Robert Murrett
Director, NGA



Mr. Rolf Mowatt-Larsen
Director for Intelligence and
Counterintelligence, DOE

Enclosure