



Protect America Alert:

President Bush: "The Time For Temporary Fixes Has Ended"

President Bush Says Congress Must Pass Legislation To "Give Our Intelligence Officials The Tools They Need To Uncover Terrorist Plots And Prevent New Attacks"

"Congress must ensure the flow of vital intelligence is not disrupted. Congress must pass liability protection for companies believed to have assisted in the efforts to defend America. The time ... for temporary fixes has ended. Congress must pass this law – and they must pass it now."

– President George W. Bush, 2/8/08

"We Must Take Measures To Protect America, The Homeland. ... And One Of The Most Important Tools Is The Ability To Monitor Terrorist Communications"

President Bush: "Our ability to monitor the communications of terrorists overseas has helped us gain crucial elements on terrorist cells, and helped keep our country safe." "My most important job is to protect the American people. In order to do that job, we need to know who the terrorists are talking to; we need to know what they're saying; we need to know what they're planning. So Congress passed the Protect America Act." (President George W. Bush, Remarks To The Conservative Political Action Conference, Washington, DC, 2/8/08)

- "We countered ... critics – and we stood our ground." The Protect America Act "modernized an outdated surveillance law and closed dangerous gaps in our intelligence. Now, critics had a different view. One liberal interest group called the law an end run around the Constitution. Others falsely claimed law-enforcement officials wanted to spy on Americans. Still another summed up the initiative as, 'a groupthink travesty.' ... Our ability to monitor the communications of terrorists overseas has helped us gain crucial elements on terrorist cells, and helped keep our country safe."
- "The Protect America Act is working. The problem is that Congress set the law to expire one week from tomorrow." "I don't think the al Qaeda threat is going to expire one week from tomorrow. Congress must ensure the flow of vital intelligence is not disrupted."
- "Congress must pass this law – and they must pass it now."