Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 28, 2008

Dear Madame Speaker:

Legislation reforming the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act (FISA) is currently being considered by the Senate. Following the Senate's passage of a FISA bill, it will be necessary for the House to quickly consider FISA legislation to get a bill to the President before the Protect America Act expires in February.

It is our belief that such legislation should include the following provisions:

- Require individualized warrants for surveillance of U.S. citizens living or traveling abroad;
- Clarify that no court order is required to conduct surveillance of foreign-to-foreign communications that are routed through the United States;
- Provide enhanced oversight by Congress of surveillance laws and procedures;
- Compel compliance by private sector partners;
- Review by FISA Court of minimization procedures;
- Targeted immunity for carriers that participated in anti-terrorism surveillance programs

The Rockefeller-Bond FISA legislation contains satisfactory language addressing all these issues and we would fully support that measure should it reach the House floor without substantial change. We believe these components will ensure a strong national security apparatus that can thwart terrorism across the globe and save American lives here in our country.

It is also critical that we update the FISA laws in a timely manner. To pass a long-term extension of the Protect America Act, as some may suggest, would leave in place a limited, stopgap measure that does not fully address critical surveillance issues. We have it within our ability to replace the expiring Protect America Act by passing strong, bipartisan FISA modernization legislation that can be signed into law and we should do so – the consequences of not passing such a measure could place our national security at undue risk.

Sincerely,

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Mike Ross

Eni Faleomavaega

Bud Cramer

Melissa L. Bean

Allen Boyd

Joe Baca

Jim Matheson

Brad Ellsworth

Tim Holden

Carol Shea-Porter

Phil Hare

Christopher P. Carney