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## **Chairman Reyes Leads Passage of Intelligence Authorization Act**

**Washington, D.C.** – *Today, the U.S. House of Representatives passed H.R. 2082, the fiscal year 2008 Intelligence Authorization Act. Congressman Silvestre Reyes, D-TX, Chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, issued the following statement on passage of the bill:*

“Intelligence is our nation’s first line of defense,” said Reyes. “In a world of asymmetric threats, it is critical that we detect and disrupt the plans and intentions of those who would do us harm. And it is critical that we conduct intelligence operations in a way that conforms to our laws and our values as a nation.

“We are at war, and we face many threats over the horizon. This bill contains very robust funding for critical intelligence programs to penetrate the hard targets, such as terrorist networks and countries developing weapons of mass destruction capabilities. We add funds to both CIA and military elements for Human Intelligence training. We invest in language training for collectors and analysts, and in language translation capabilities. We add funding for sending additional analysts overseas. And we strengthen counterintelligence field operations.

“Our request for a National Intelligence Estimate (NIE) on the national security impact of climate change does not divert resources from higher-priority items. We heeded the advice of eleven former three- and four-star admirals and generals who have studied this issue and recommended an NIE. They believe that significant changes in global climate may act as a ‘threat multiplier for instability in some of the most volatile regions of the world.’”