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## **U.S. House Passes Intelligence Authorization Act Conference report**

**Washington, D.C.** – For the first time in three years, the U.S. House of Representatives passed an intelligence authorization conference report. The U.S. House approved the conference report of H.R. 2082, the fiscal year 2008 Intelligence Authorization Act, today.

“With the passage of this bill, the House is back in the business of conducting oversight of the intelligence community,” said Chairman Silvestre Reyes, D-TX. “This is the first time in three years that the U.S. House has voted on an intelligence authorization conference report, and I am proud that we worked in a bipartisan manner to make this happen. This bill makes critical investments in human intelligence, counterterrorism operations, counterproliferation, counterintelligence, analysis, and language skills. This is a strong bill that improves our intelligence community and enhances our nation’s security.”

Highlights of the conference report include:

### **FUNDING**

For the first time, this Intelligence Authorization conference report authorizes both the intelligence community (IC) base budget and a full year of supplemental funding. It also:

- Fully funds activities to accelerate key global counterterrorism activities, including the pursuit of Osama bin Laden, al Qaeda and other terrorists;
- Adds significant additional funding for Advanced Research and Development to help the Intelligence Community maintain its technical edge, and includes funds to pursue research into global climate change;
- Funds initiatives to repair and replace aging and inadequate infrastructure; and
- Adds funds to improve training and education of linguists, analysts and Human Intelligence collectors.

### **OVERSIGHT**

The conference report enhances the oversight of the IC by:

- Creating a statutory, Senate-confirmed IC Inspector General with the authority to inspect, audit and investigate activities across the IC;

- Requiring Senate confirmation for Directors of the National Security Agency and National Reconnaissance Office;
- Requiring a report on compliance with the Detainee Treatment Act of 2005 and related provisions of the Military Commissions Act of 2006 regarding detentions and interrogations, as well as Justice Department legal opinions related to these activities;
- Mandating semi-annual reports on the nuclear programs of Iran and North Korea; and
- Requiring interrogation techniques to adhere to those permitted by the United States Army Field Manual.

## **MANAGEMENT**

The conference report will provide important enhancements to IC acquisition and personnel management tools, including provisions designed to:

- Increase accountability in the acquisition and development of major systems;
- Prevent excessive cost growth of major systems;
- Increase accountability for and limits on the use of contractors;
- Grant IC agencies the ability to convert contractor positions to full-time government positions;
- Improve workplace diversity and foreign language proficiency;
- Help better protect the identities of intelligence officers and agents; and
- Improve the security clearance process by requiring the implementation of a multilevel security clearance approach to increase linguistic and cultural expertise.