

For Immediate Release September 9, 2011 Contact: Susan Phalen (202) 225-4121

Chairman Rogers and Ranking Member Ruppersberger Applaud House Passage of FY12 Intelligence Authorization Bill

WASHINGTON, D.C. –House Intelligence Committee Chairman, Mike Rogers, and Ranking Member Dutch Ruppersberger today praised the passage of the FY12 Intelligence Authorization Bill in the House of Representatives. The passage of the FY11 Intel Authorization Bill marked the first time since FY04 a complete Intelligence Authorization Bill was enacted, and today's House passage marks a commitment to returning to the normal business of oversight of the Intelligence Community. The FY12 bill, H.R. 1892 passed the House of Representatives with an overwhelming bipartisan vote of 384 to 14.

The FY12 Intelligence Authorization Bill is a vital tool for Congressional oversight of the classified activities of the Intelligence Community, and is critical to ensuring that our intelligence agencies have the resources and authorities they need to do their important work.

The bill provides oversight and authorization for critical intelligence activities, including:

- Solution Content Conte
- > Tactical intelligence support to combat units in Afghanistan and Iraq
- Cyber defense by the National Security Agency
- Court-ordered wire taps against terrorists and spies
- > Detecting and countering the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction
- > Designing, launching and operating of spy satellites
- > Global monitoring of foreign militaries, weapons tests, and arms control treaties
- > Real-time analysis and reporting on events such as the unrest in the Middle East
- Research and development of new technology to maintain our intelligence agencies' technological edge, including work on code breaking and spy satellites

In today's tough fiscal climate, the passage of this bill is the result of extensive bipartisan cooperation and support. When drafting the bill, the Intelligence Committee found fiscal efficiencies to be gleaned without impacting the mission. This resulted in an FY12 Intel Authorization Bill that is below the levels authorized and appropriated in FY11 and significantly below the President's budget request.

"This bi-partisan bill preserves and advances national security and is also fiscally responsible," said Chairman Mike Rogers. "We are going to keep looking for efficiencies where we can, while continuing to ensure that our Intelligence Community has the tools it needs to keep America safe. This is a bill the Intelligence Community and the American people can be proud of," he said.

"It is our responsibility to give our intelligence professionals the resources, capabilities and authorities they need to keep our country safe. The bi-partisan bill does this while keeping costs in check," said Ranking Member C.A. Dutch Ruppersberger of the House Intelligence Committee.

The bill now moves over to the Senate for consideration. "I urge the Senate to pass this bill and get it to the President's desk for signature without delay," Chairman Rogers said.

-30-

**For regular updates, join the HPSCI Facebook page at House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence or go to the HPSCI website at - <u>http://intelligence.house.gov/</u>