

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

December 20, 2005

The Honorable William H. Frist, MD
United States Senate Majority Leader
Room S-230, The Capitol
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Mr. Majority Leader,

We are writing to let you know of our support of S. 2082, bi-partisan legislation introduced by Senators Sununu and Leahy, that would provide a three month extension of the expiring provisions of the PATRIOT Act and the lone wolf provision of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorist Prevention Act in the event the Senate is unable to gain agreement on a conference report to reauthorize these provisions.

We sincerely hope that House and Senate negotiators will reach agreement this week on a reauthorization bill that balances the needs of law enforcement with civil liberty protections for innocent Americans. However, if such an agreement cannot be reached before both Houses adjourn this week, federal law enforcement officials should continue to have use of the investigative tools of the PATRIOT Act. A three month extension of the expiring provisions of the PATRIOT Act and the lone wolf provision of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorist Prevention Act will accomplish this goal.

As you, President Bush, Attorney General Gonzales and others have emphatically noted in recent days, the PATRIOT Act provides important tools for federal law enforcement officials to investigate and prevent terrorist attacks. Therefore, these law enforcement tools should remain in place should our work on final reauthorization legislation take us into the new year.

Sincerely,

John E. Sununu
Patrick Leahy
Tom Harkin
Chris Hatch

Patrick Leahy
Charles Schumer
Harry Reid
Jay Byrnes

Barbara Boker

Jack Reed

Byron L. Dwyer

Bob Jones

Jim Hill

Janice Christen

Robert C. Byrd

Dick Durbin

Jack Dayton

Chris Dodd

Carl Levin

Susan M. Collins

Jim Johnson

Bill A

Tom Lamy

Maria Cochran

Robert C. McHugh

Frank R. Lautenberg

Paul H. Sarbanes

Max Baucus

Patty Murray

OE / Susan

Jim Jeffords

Blanche L. Lincoln

Pat Kennedy

Ernie Bough

Tom F. Kelly

Ken Salazar

Tom Harkin

Bill Nelson

John Stenger

Mike Cryer

Rebbie Steneow

Herb Kohl

Barbara

Hillary Rodham Clinton

Jeff Blum

Allyson

May St. Germain

Max Baucus

P. L. Chafe

Dent Kent

James H. DeLoach

Olympia Snowe