

House Armed Services Committee

DEMOCRATS

Ike Skelton, Ranking Member

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Republican Intelligence Reform Omits Bipartisan 9/11 Commission Recommendations

WASHINGTON D.C.— Republicans decline to include key recommendations of the bipartisan 9/11 Commission in their intelligence reform legislation.

Representative Ike Skelton (MO), Ranking Member on the Armed Services Committee made the following statement:

"Unfortunately, the Republican bill which passed the House was not the common sense answer to improving America's flawed intelligence system. A much better approach to this serious problem would have been to adopt the Democratic Menendez substitute bill, which lost on a vote of 203-213.

The substitute bill mirrored the legislation passed in the Senate by a vote of 96 to 2. The Menendez substitute bill was supported by the White House, the 9-11 Commission, as well as the families of 9-11 victims. It provided for a National Intelligence Director with substantial power to budget and coordinate the various intelligence agencies.

With the passage of the House Republican bill, being so different from the Senate-passed bill, the likelihood of meaningful legislation being sent to the President for his signature is greatly diminished. "

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