

OpenTheGovernment.org

Americans for Less Secrecy, More Democracy

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Sunlight Foundation

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David Sobel
*Electronic Frontier
Foundation*

*co-chairs

November 30, 2007

Senator Joseph Biden
Senator Hillary Clinton
Senator Christopher Dodd
Senator John McCain

Dear Senators,

I am writing to you on behalf of the 70 organizations that comprise OpenTheGovernment.org to ask you, as an important member of the Senate and a candidate for your party's nomination for the presidency of the United States, to co-sponsor "The Presidential Records Act Amendments of 2007" (S. 886) which would re-establish procedures to ensure the timely release of presidential records that Congress intended with the Presidential Records Act of 1978.

OpenTheGovernment.org (www.openthegovernment.org) is a coalition of consumer and good government groups, journalists, environmentalists, library groups, labor and others united to make the federal government a more open place in order to make us safer, strengthen public trust in government, and support our democratic principles. We consider this bill as key to ensuring government accountability and the public's trust in their government.

The bill has broad bipartisan support in the Senate, and cleared the Senate Homeland Security and Government Affairs Committee by voice vote earlier this year. On March 14, 2007, the U.S. House of Representatives approved H.R. 1255 by a large margin (333-93), including 104 Republicans.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions. Please contact Ann E. Chavez of Senator Bingaman's staff (202.224.3882) to sign on as a co-sponsor.

Thank you.

Sincerely,



Patrice McDermott

Cc: Senator Jeff Bingaman

Patrice McDermott
Director

Chris Green
Program Associate

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