

DIRECTOR OF NATIONAL INTELLIGENCE  
WASHINGTON, DC 20511

December 16, 2008

**Statement by the Director of National Intelligence  
Mr. Mike McConnell**

The Intelligence Community congratulates Senator Dianne Feinstein on her nomination to become Chairwoman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. Senator Feinstein has been an influential and insightful member of the Committee for many years. Her understanding of the threats facing the nation allows her to effectively lead this critical oversight committee. On behalf of our Community, I welcome Senator Feinstein's nomination, and we look forward to working with her and the entire committee in the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress as they carry out their important work.

I want to also thank Chairman Rockefeller for his unwavering leadership over the past two years as Chairman of the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence. Prior to assuming the role as Chairman, Senator Rockefeller served as both Vice Chairman and as a member of the committee for nearly a decade. Our Community has been privileged to work with the distinguished Senator who is both passionate and devoted to the vital work that we do. We are fortunate that he will continue to serve on this committee in the 111<sup>th</sup> Congress.

###