

July 22, 2004

The Honorable J. Dennis Hastert
Speaker, U.S. House of Representatives
H 232 Capitol Building
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Hastert:

I write to formally request the position on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence to be made vacant by Congressman Doug Bereuter's retirement next month. I appreciate your attention to this matter.

As America and the world confronts new threats following the collapse of the Soviet Union and the end of the Cold War, the importance of intelligence is clear. As a former FBI Special Agent and U.S. Army Officer, I believe that I can bring a degree of expertise in assisting the Committee conduct its vitally important oversight and intelligence public policy work. Please allow me to elaborate.

- **Experience.** My former background, coupled with my travels to places such as Iraq, Afghanistan, Turkey, Jordan, Israel and Hungary with a focus on security issues ensure that there will be a limited learning curve allowing me to hit the ground running. I had the fortune of traveling with Intelligence Committee Members during many of these visits overseas.
- **The Politicization of Intelligence.** There is no disputing the Democrats have made intelligence a political issue. Whether it is on the House floor or the public airwaves, my past experience and involvement on these issues allows me to articulate the Republican commitment to refocus our intelligence community. Additionally, I recently authored an amendment to the Intelligence Authorization Act at the request of leadership that was approved by the full House.
- **Commitment to Oversight.** I understand the hard, and often tedious, work of intelligence oversight. In addition to regularly attending intelligence briefings, I sought additional information and worked with you and the Administration on such sensitive issues as Iraqi police training and munitions storage facility security. I believe this clearly demonstrates my commitment to do the work of the Committee and perform oversight functions in a constructive way.

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- **Proper Message Communication.** I have demonstrated a commitment to keeping sensitive information private, while communicating in the public domain the real threat facing America. Attorney General John Ashcroft, the White House, the Republican Conference, and Bush/Cheney 2004 have all sought my public comments on a variety of national security issues. You can count on my continued commitment to protect some of our nation's most sensitive information.

Again, thank you for your attention to this matter and for your service to America. I would be honored to be considered for a position on this critically important Committee. Please let me know if you have any questions or concerns.

Sincerely,

Mike Rogers
Member of Congress