

Sent via E-mail September 18, 2007:

The Honorable Representative Brian Bilbray  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Bilbray:

As much as I appreciate the importance of home land security, especially as someone who served almost 20 years in the Marines, both active and reserve, I am leery of a central Federal government which has too much power.

Specifically, I am concerned with the government's policies on domestic wire tapping without court-orders, in addition to other growing powers. Unfortunately, these powers will most likely not be turned off by the next Presidential Administration, regardless of party, since they, too would enjoy them.

I much prefer to live under the threat of a foreign enemy rather than the fear of a domestic enemy.

Whenever the President makes a decision which could possibly infringe on our Fourth Amendment rights I ask myself if it is in line with the President's Oath under the last paragraph of Article II , Section 1. of the Constitution: "... preserve, protect and defend the Constitution of the United States." This Oath is specifically designed not to protect our country, but, more importantly, to protect the principles of our Constitution.

Principles (the Constitution) are more important than values (laws and executive orders).

I strongly feel that the only way our country could be permanently harmed is not from an outside enemy, but rather, from inside by our own leaders not keeping in mind the principles of the Constitution.

As Americans, we all understand that there are risks to being a free society and, just like the risks associated with driving a car, we are willing to accept them.

I urge you not to support any bills which do not require judicial oversight regarding wire-tapping.

Sincerely,  
Joseph L. Moreno  
Carlsbad, California