

THE WHITE HOUSE

WASHINGTON

September 14, 1981

Dear Senator Dole:

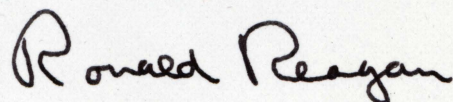
It is my understanding that the Senate Judiciary Committee will consider S.391, The Intelligence Identities Protection Act of 1981, on Tuesday, September 15.

Passage of legislation to provide criminal sanctions against those who make it their business to identify and expose our intelligence officers is a key element of my program to rebuild and strengthen US intelligence capabilities. Nothing has been more damaging to our intelligence effort than the pernicious, unauthorized disclosures of the names of those officers whom we send on dangerous and difficult assignments abroad.

Attorney General Smith advises that the Senate version of this legislation, S.391, is legally sound, both from a prosecution perspective and in the protection it provides for constitutional rights of innocent Americans. Any change to the Senate version would have the effect of altering this carefully-crafted balance.

I cannot overemphasize the importance of this legislation. I hope I can have your support in reporting out S.391 without amendment.

Sincerely,



The Honorable Robert Dole  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510