Is Un-American

UNDER THE GUISE of reforming America's intelligence agencies, Republican leaders in the House of Representatives last week pushed through legislation that expands the infamous PATRIOT Act and gives the government broad new powers to collect, store and share personal information about each and every one of us. In doing so, they are threatening many of the basic rights and liberties that have been the foundation of our democracy for more than 200 years.

Over the objections of many conservatives and liberals alike, they want to allow:

- Federal intelligence agencies, the FBI, state and local police, and even private companies to have access to your personal information without any way to protect your privacy
- A National Identification System that requires the federal government to set mandatory standards for all driver's licenses which could then be linked to a national database

We all want to do what's necessary to make America more secure. But taking away our right to privacy and giving the government even more control over our lives is not the answer.

The Bush Administration knows there is a better way.

So call the White House at 202-456-1414

Ask them to help remove the amendments to the intelligence reform legislation that expand the PATRIOT Act and take away our rights.

Because "Big Brother" won't keep America safe <u>and</u> free.

Bob Barr, former member of Congress and 21st Century Liberties Chair for Freedom and Privacy, American Conservative Union

American Civil Liberties Union