

by executive fiat. A decision on a new intelligence agency should be based on a national debate and national consensus, not partisan politics.

This debate must take place, and it must happen soon. I have no doubt that if America goes to war against Iraq, terrorists will go to war against America – on American soil. America will be part of the battlefield. We must be prepared.

That is why I support the important concrete changes recommended by the Joint Inquiry Committee to revamp, reform and reinvigorate the Intelligence Community.

- **Creating a Cabinet-level Director of National Intelligence position.** This gives one person responsibility and authority over every element of the Intelligence Community – to set priorities, assign personnel, and manage a unified budget. Breaking down silos and ending turf battles must be top priority. Putting a single person in charge is a solid first step to real reform.
- **Creation of a national watchlist center.** Four of the terrorists involved in the September 11th attacks were stopped by local law enforcement for speeding or for not having a driver's license. When the police officers did the checks, there were no flashing yellow lights about these men. Today local law enforcement knows more about dead-beat dads than death threat terrorists. Something is really wrong here. We need to fix it. Creating a national watchlist center will ensure that information about potential terrorists is available to those who need it – from Customs inspectors to local cops on the beat.
- **Creating better technologies for intelligence.** Our intelligence community must stay ahead of the curve on developing and using new technologies. We need to make sure our ears on the world don't go deaf because of commercial encryption or huge volumes of data.
- **Reforming the FBI.** The FBI must be more effective and efficient in both law enforcement and preventing terrorism. That means better analysis and training,