

# OpenTheGovernment.org

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Americans for Less Secrecy, More Democracy

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## **MEDIA ADVISORY**

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### **101 Organizations Urge Bringing OPEN Government Act to Senate Floor**

May 17, 2007 - Today, Majority Leader Harry Reid and Minority Leader Mitch McConnell received a letter signed by 101 organizations urging them to support the OPEN Government Act (S.849)– which would institute much needed reforms to the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) – and bring it to the Senate floor for a vote.

Patrice McDermott, Director of OpenTheGovernment.org said, “Reform of the Freedom of Information Act is long overdue and much needed. Agencies are needlessly delaying public access to the records of our government and have no incentives to change their practices. This legislation, which has already passed in the House, would bring more sunlight and more accountability to the process.”

The OPEN Government Act has been reported out of the Senate Judiciary Committee favorably without any amendments.

The letter can be found at

[http://www.openthegovernment.org/otg/OPENgovt\\_Senators](http://www.openthegovernment.org/otg/OPENgovt_Senators)

OpenTheGovernment.org is a coalition of over 65 groups working to promote openness and accountability in the federal government. The coalition and many of its member organizations have been actively engaged in efforts to strengthen and reform FOIA.