



COMMITTEE ON
**HOMELAND
SECURITY**
CHAIRMAN BENNIE G. THOMPSON

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Statement of Chairman Bennie G. Thompson (D-MS)
Organizational Meeting for the 116th Congress
January 30, 2019

I am pleased to join with all of you today to officially organize the Committee on Homeland Security. We have a big job to do.

The American people are looking to us to help the Department of Homeland Security keep America safe.

These are difficult times for the 240,000 men and women who keep our borders, cyberspace, transportation, and infrastructure secure.

Over the past month, they either found themselves furloughed or working without pay because the President chose to thrust us into the longest Federal shutdown in the hopes of extorting money for his wall.

Today, DHS remains under threat of another shutdown. I fear that our enemies, be they terrorists or state actors are watching.

For our part, I hope that this Committee can continue its history of bipartisan collaboration and putting the security of our communities first.

We have some new faces on the panel as well as some returning Members. To my colleagues on the Committee, I say 'welcome and get ready to roll up your sleeves.'

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