



HOMELAND SECURITY COMMITTEE

OPENING STATEMENT

September 30, 2015

MEDIA CONTACTS

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Statement of Chairman Michael McCaul (R-TX) House Homeland Security Committee

Markup: H.R. 3102, H.R. 3144, H.R. 3350, H.R. 3361, H.R. 3490, H.R. 3493, H.R. 3503, H.R. 3505, H.R. 3510, H.R. 3572, H.R. 3578, H.R. 3583, H.R. 3584, H.R. 3586, H.R. 3598

Remarks as Prepared

We are meeting today to consider several measures that will reform and improve key elements of the Department of Homeland Security. These measures will streamline bureaucracy, save money, provide strong Congressional direction to the Department and strengthen the Committee's oversight role.

Collectively, these bills ensure DHS will be a leaner and more efficient Department by eliminating several unnecessary Assistant Secretary positions, abolishing un-needed offices and consolidating other offices that are not operating efficiently.

These bills also eliminate unnecessary and costly reports within the Department. We also mandate efficiency reviews that will help ensure taxpayer dollars are not wasted and are better spent to protect the homeland. Most importantly these bills strengthen national security and protect the homeland.

I appreciate the work that Members and staff have done to bring us to this point. I want to say a special thank you to the Ranking Member for all of his efforts. This has been a bipartisan, collaborative effort which is the best way for us to reform this key Department.

Just this week, it was reported that DHS once again scored at the bottom of the pack in a survey of federal employee morale. I hope that our collective efforts might help to turn this around.

Each of the bills that passed out of subcommittee passed by voice vote. I hope that the spirit of cooperation will continue today. I am proud of this Committee.

In this era of constant and evolving threats we need to work together to strengthen the security of the homeland. In the interest of time, I will keep my remarks brief so we can move on to the business of the Committee.

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