



HOMELAND SECURITY COMMITTEE

OPENING STATEMENT

November 4, 2015

MEDIA CONTACTS

Susan Phalen, Matthew Ballard

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

Markup of H.R. 2285, H.R. 2795, H.R. 3842, H.R. 3859, H.R. 3875, H.R. 3869, and H.R. 3878

Remarks as Prepared

I am proud of the work this Committee has done in 2015. In this era of constant and evolving threats we need to work together to strengthen the security of the homeland. We must do this with a common sense of purpose and with one voice.

Almost all of the work we have done this year has been accomplished in a bipartisan manner, which has been one of the keys to our success. For this, I thank everybody on the Committee and especially the Ranking Member for his partnership.

As of yesterday, we have passed 48 bills out of Committee – 22 from freshman Members. 37 of these have passed the full House and 7 have become law, accounting for 10% of all Public Laws this year. 5 of these Public Laws were authored by freshman on this Committee.

These are achievements to be proud of, but our work is not done. I look forward to working with the Ranking Member in our markup today and throughout next year to strengthen the homeland through our oversight and legislative efforts.

Today, I hope that we will continue that bipartisan work and send these bills to the House floor. These bills strengthen our cybersecurity defenses, assist our first responders, prevent the trafficking of cultural property, update the Homeland Security Act and strengthen our defenses against weapons of mass destruction. Collectively they represent another series of bills that will hopefully make it to the President's desk and when enacted help protect the American people from our enemies.

I would like to thank all of the Members and staff for their work on these bills and look forward to a productive markup.

###