



June 13, 2017

The Honorable Michael McCaul
Chairman
The Honorable Bennie Thompson
Ranking Member
Committee on Homeland Security
United States House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Chairman McCaul and Ranking Member Thompson,

I write on behalf of the National Fusion Center Association (NFCA) in support of provisions in the PREPARE Act that will strengthen preparedness of the homeland.

The PREPARE Act would make meaningful improvements in the way the Federal government supports terrorism prevention activities carried out by fusion centers in collaboration with the larger group of public safety partners including components of the Department of Homeland Security. The bill would reauthorize key preparedness grant programs with improvements in the way the grants are administered, including with meaningful input from the law enforcement communities in each state. It would strengthen the Law Enforcement Terrorism Prevention Activities requirement that is in existing law by fostering enhanced engagement among law enforcement practitioners and key offices within DHS including the Office of State and Local Law Enforcement and FEMA.

The bill also takes productive steps to help Federal, state, and local partners share information on cyber threats. Ensuring effective collaboration and preparedness regarding cyber threats is becoming more important, and the PREPARE Act would be helpful on this front by encouraging the timely analysis and sharing of threat information.

We commend your consistent and aggressive efforts to find ways for Congress to foster improved collaboration and coordination by Federal, state, local, and private entities to protect the homeland. We have made great progress, but we have much more work to do. The PREPARE Act is the latest example of your dedication to this purpose, and we look forward to working with you and your colleagues to ensure effective legislation is enacted.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Mike Sena".

Mike Sena
President
National Fusion Center Association