



HOMELAND SECURITY COMMITTEE

Statement of Chairman Rep. Michael McCaul (R-TX) Homeland Security Committee Markup

*Committee to Consider H.R. 4627, H.R. 4991, H.R. 5206, H.R. 5207, H.R. 5729, H.R. 5730, H.R. 5733,
H.R. 5762, H.R. 5766, and H.Res. 898*

June 6, 2018

Remarks as Prepared

Before we begin, I'd like to note that today is the 74th Anniversary of the D-Day invasion.

On this day in 1944, over 150,000 Allied forces stormed the beaches of Normandy to liberate Europe from the Nazis. It was a defining moment in world history.

My father was a bombardier on a B-17 during this invasion. He was one of the many brave Americans who made up the "Greatest Generation."

Since the end of World War II, the threats to our country have evolved dramatically. We no longer face the hatred of Hitler's fascism, but we do face evil in *other* forms.

Islamist terrorists are busy planning their next attack. Drug smugglers, human traffickers, and gangs like MS-13 are creeping across our border and infecting our neighborhoods.

International hackers and nation states are engaged in cyber warfare, and the next natural disaster could strike at any moment.

The American people are counting on us to confront these threats and keep them safe. We cannot let our guard down.

That is why we are marking up legislation to strengthen the security of our homeland in several key areas.

One of today's bills, sponsored by Congresswoman McCally, authorizes the Immigration Advisory Program.

This important program allows CBP officers to travel to Last Points of Departure airports and prevent security threats from boarding an aircraft bound for our country.

Another bill, authored by Congressman Langevin, allows DHS to establish a Joint Task Force to prohibit narcotics, such as fentanyl, and other synthetic opioids from entering the United States.

Drugs like these have been fueling the epidemic that is plaguing our country. Substance abuse and addiction are destroying people's lives.

According to the Center for Disease Control, an estimated 42,000 people died in 2016 from drug overdoses involving an opioid.

We cannot allow this number to climb.

Stopping the flow of drugs into our country will allow more Americans to follow their dreams and build a bright future.

Additionally, we will markup several other bills to enhance our cybersecurity, support our first responders, strengthen counterterrorism measures, and bolster our transportation security.

I'd like to thank everyone for their hard work on each of these bills.

Let's continue to work together in a bipartisan manner as we fight to keep our homeland safe.

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