



**One Hundred Eighteenth Congress  
Committee on Homeland Security  
U.S. House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515**

July 27, 2023

The Honorable Bennie Thompson  
Ranking Member  
Committee on Homeland Security  
H2-117 Ford House Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Ranking Member Thompson:

After more than two decades of existence, the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is long overdue for a thorough congressional review. Some elements of DHS, such as U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement, have never actually been authorized, and DHS itself has not been comprehensively reviewed since Congress passed the Homeland Security Act (HSA) of 2002 establishing the Department. Recognizing that there have been bipartisan efforts to send a reauthorization to the President's desk, I am hopeful that, as Chairman and Ranking Member of the Committee on Homeland Security, we can revisit the issue with fresh eyes and in a similarly bipartisan manner.

Therefore, I invite you to put forward three of your Democrat Members to join a Committee working group to conduct a congressional review of the Department with the goal of finding ways to restructure, reorganize and look at options for reauthorizing DHS. This bipartisan working group will examine ways to simplify the organizational structure of the Department, ensure it is efficiently using its resources while leaving no need unmet, improve the Department's reporting to Congress, update its task organization, and eliminate duplicative programs and unnecessary spending.

We need strategic-minded individuals who have experience identifying and resolving organizational inefficiencies. I am hopeful that if we get the right people together, we can deliver a more modern and efficient Department for the American people.

The working group will begin meeting in September. As such, I request you provide a list of Members no later than August 11<sup>th</sup> so we can begin preparing. I look forward to working with you on this important topic.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mark E. Green". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized "M" and "G".

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Mark E. Green, M.D.  
Chairman  
Committee on Homeland Security