



# **Chairman Rodney Frelinghuysen**

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## *House Committee on Appropriations*

### **FY 2018 Homeland Security Appropriations Bill Subcommittee Markup July 12, 2017 Opening Statement As Prepared**

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Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the time and for all your hard work and that of members of the Subcommittee and this excellent staff to make this mark-up possible.

I am going to exercise the prerogatives as Chair and reserve my more expansive remarks for full committee.

This committee has no higher priority than protecting our Homeland, ensuring all of our families, neighbors, schools and businesses are safe from ever growing and changing threats.

The FY 2018 Homeland Security bill provides the necessary funding to programs that support our first responders--the first line of defense in our communities— ensuring they are prepared to respond to these complex threats.

Earlier this year we witnessed terrorist threats being made against hundreds of Jewish institutions, including schools, synagogues and centers located in New Jersey and in my Congressional district. I am extremely pleased to report this legislation increases funding to the Federal Emergency Management Agency's (FEMA) Nonprofit Security Grants, which provide physical security enhancements to nonprofit organizations that are at high risk of terrorist attack.

Further, our daily life, economic vitality, and national security depend on a stable, safe, and resilient cyberspace. I am pleased to note that this bill provides key investments to ensure DHS is able to prepare, detect and respond to attacks on our cyber networks and infrastructure.

I would also like to thank the Chairman for his work to ensure this legislation prioritizes funding that will keep our borders secure and ensure the necessary resources are provided to enforce our nation's immigration laws.

I urge its adoption.

Once again, I want to thank the Chair, the Ranking Members, and all members of the Subcommittee for producing such a strong bill on such short notice.

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