

FY19 Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee Mark-up Opening Statement (as prepared) July 19, 2018

Thank you, Mr. Chairman (Yoder), for the time.

Today, the Committee continues its appropriations process for the FY 2019 cycle.

This morning, we consider our final annual funding bill in Subcommittee, the Fiscal Year (FY) 2019 Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Appropriations bill.

I want to thank the members of the Committee (and our staff) for their hard work to bring us to this point.

Chairman Yoder has already presented the specifics of the legislation, so I will be brief.

This bill funds critical programs that will safeguard our homeland and protect our citizens and provides the brave men and women at DHS with the resources they need to accomplish their critical missions.

The legislation also includes the necessary resources to ensure our first responders are prepared to respond to ever growing and more complex threats, including funding to the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI). These resources provide critical support to communities that face the greatest risks including my home state of New Jersey, where 700 families lost loved ones in the Sept. 11 terrorist attacks.

Further, the FY 2019 DHS bill continues this Committee's robust support of the Nonprofit Security Grant program which provides target hardening and other physical security enhancements to nonprofits, including faith based organizations like

Synagogues, Jewish Community Centers and schools that are at high risk of a terrorist attack.

This is a sound bill, I urge its adoption and look forward to the full committee markup next week.

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I commend you, Mr. Yoder and the Ranking Member of the Subcommittee, Ms. Roybal-Allard and the full Committee, Ms. Lowey, all the members of the Subcommittee and the professional staff - on both sides of the aisle - who have worked so hard to make this mark-up possible.

Thank you Mr. Chairman. I yield back.