

Testimony of The Honorable Kathy Manning (NC-06)

Member Day Hearing

House Appropriations Committee

Subcommittee on Homeland Security

April 11, 2024

Chairman Joyce, Ranking Member Cueller, and Members of the Subcommittee,

I am deeply grateful for your leadership on this committee, and I appreciate the opportunity to testify before you today.

I am here today as a proud co-chair of the House Bipartisan Task Force for Combating Antisemitism, together with Representative Chris Smith of New Jersey and six other co-chairs on both sides of the aisle, including House Appropriations Committee Chairwoman Kay Granger, and Vice Ranking Member Grace Meng.

I would like to urge Members of the Subcommittee to continue your strong record of bipartisan support for the Department of Homeland Security's Nonprofit Security Grant Program in Fiscal Year 2025.

As you know, in the wake of the October 7th Hamas terrorist attack against Israel, we've seen a drastic increase of antisemitic hatred, and a heightened threat environment for Jewish institutions and places of worship in the United States.

The Department of Homeland Security's Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) is the single most effective resource the Jewish community has to protect its institutions and our communities from harm. Synagogues, Jewish Community Centers, yeshivas, and many other faith-based and nonprofit institutions rely on this critical funding to keep them safe.

According to the Department of Homeland Security "the NSGP enables DHS to support facility hardening and other operational and physical security enhancements for nonprofit organizations that may be at risk of attack. DHS also continues to refine our grant processes to streamline the NSGP application process through enhanced training, new methods of technical assistance, and engagements with rural and underserved communities to ensure they are aware of the purpose and requirements of this grant program." As both of you know, this critical program has directly benefited communities in each of our Congressional districts across the country.

Given the dramatic rise in antisemitism in recent months, it was deeply disappointing that the vital funding for this program was cut by \$30.5 million in the final FY24 negotiated bill Congress passed last month, instead of being increased.

That is why I respectfully request that in the upcoming Fiscal Year, the Subcommittee approve funding of \$500 million for the Non-Profit Security Grant Program, as well as \$50 million for the Center for Prevention Programs and Partnerships Grant Program.

We must continue working across the aisle to enhance the safety and security of the Jewish community.

Mr. Chairman and Ranking Member, thank you for your work on this Committee and in Congress to help fight the scourge of antisemitism. I am grateful for your time today, and I look forward to working together with you and members of both parties to better protect the Jewish community, and counter antisemitism and hate.