



Chairman Rodney Frelinghuysen

House Committee on Appropriations

FY 2018 Legislative Branch Appropriations Bill Subcommittee Markup June 23, 2017 Opening Statement

Thank you, Mr. Chairman, for the time. Today, the House continues its appropriations process with the second subcommittee mark-up of the FY 2018 cycle. Having moved the Military Construction-VA bill through full Committee last week, we now turn our attention to the legislative branch bill.

The legislation before us is designed to enhance the public's access to their members of Congress – both online and in person.

I would note that this bill once again reflects a continued acknowledgment that the Legislative Branch must set itself as an example for fiscal responsibility while continuing to serve the Nation. As in years past, this bill will require serious fiscal discipline on the part of all Congressional offices and all agency heads in the Legislative Branch.

Of course, the tragic events of June 14 weigh heavily on these deliberations this morning. We continue to pray for the recovery of our Colleague, Steve Scalise, and the others injured in Alexandria, Virginia.

We are grateful that the U.S. Capitol Police performed so courageously and effectively on that day and we are continuing to explore the best means to enhance their capabilities to provide additional security.

In this context, this legislation provides a \$29.2 million increase for the Capitol Police. This sum will fund critical safety and enhanced security functions and address many of the issues related to security and protection following the shooting of our Mr. Scalise, Crystal Griner, David Bailey, Matt Mika, and Zack Barth last week.

I look forward to an expeditious mark-up this morning to allow us to continue with the oversight and funding process. It is our intention to move as expeditiously as possible to complete all of the fiscal year 2018 Appropriations bills.

I commend you, Mr. Chairman, the Ranking Member, Mr. Ryan, all the members of the Subcommittee and the professional staff who have worked so hard to make this mark-up possible.

Thank you, Mr. Chairman. I yield back.

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