

COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY
Testimony of Chairman Mark E. Green, MD (R-TN)
Before the
Committee on House Administration: 118th Congress Committee Funding Resolutions

Thank you, Chairman Steil, Ranking Member Morelle, and Members of the Committee.

I want to start by congratulating both the Chairman and Ranking Member on your respective appointments to lead this important Committee, which plays a critical role in the daily operations that keep the House of Representatives running smoothly and the Capitol complex secure. No one knows better than the Members of the Committee on House Administration the essential mission you all have, and I know I speak for all my colleagues on the Homeland Security Committee when I say we sincerely appreciate the often unsung work you do.

In the 118th Congress, the Homeland Security Committee will expand our important work overseeing the Department of Homeland Security and its components, including Customs and Border Protection, the U.S. Border Patrol, the Transportation Security Administration, the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency, the Federal Emergency Management Agency, and many others. DHS is the third largest department in the federal government, with a \$70 billion budget and around 250,000 employees. The mission of DHS is critical to protecting America from a litany of threats stemming from terrorism, adversarial cyber actors, the Chinese Communist Party, natural disasters, and, of course, the crisis along our southwest border.

By investing in the Homeland Security Committee, you are making an investment in the security of the American People. Threats facing American communities are constantly evolving, and it takes a tremendous amount of effort on the part of our Committee to stay on top of how DHS is responding to those threats and stewarding massive amounts of taxpayer dollars. It is incumbent upon our Committee to successfully enact legislative reform, where necessary, and conduct rigorous oversight.

Primarily, the Committee's budget request will be invested in recruiting and retaining the top talent needed to sustain an aggressive tempo of investigations, legislative development, and committee oversight activities. Additionally, the Committee on Homeland Security must maintain the resources needed to go where the mission takes us across the homeland to hear from those serving on the front lines. We have planned a robust cadence of site visits, field hearings, and investigative travel to hold DHS accountable and provide oversight to its wide and varying mission set—from our largest cities facing threats from terrorism to underserved rural communities facing natural disasters and everywhere in between.

We will maintain a steady presence along our southwest border, which faces unprecedented challenges. We will also investigate the Chinese Communist Party's threats to our supply chains at our nation's commercial ports and DHS's role in enforcing provisions of the *Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act*. And we will continue maturing the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency as it supports state and local governments and private sector businesses across the country.

But all this important work requires the right investment in our mission. For every dollar provided for the work of the Homeland Security Committee, Congress and the American People will see a strong return on their investment. We will diligently steward our resources with the utmost integrity. Our funding request is not filled with things that would be nice to have or do, but those which are essential to overseeing the third largest department and keeping our homeland secure.

Thank you for taking the time to examine our funding request, and I look forward to answering any questions you all may have.