

1 **AUTHORIZATION AND OVERSIGHT PLAN OF THE**
2 **COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY**
3 **118th CONGRESS**
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5 Clause 2(d)(1), Rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives for the 118th
6 Congress requires each standing Committee to adopt an authorization and oversight plan for the
7 two-year period of the Congress and to submit the plan to the Committee on Oversight and
8 Accountability and the Committee on House Administration not later than March 1 of the first
9 session of the Congress.

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11 Legislative Jurisdiction
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13 Clause 1(j) of Rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives for the 118th Congress
14 defines the Committee on Homeland Security’s legislative jurisdiction as follows:
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16 Committee on Homeland Security.

- 17 (1) Overall homeland security policy.
- 18 (2) Organization, administration, and management of the Department of Homeland
19 Security.
- 20 (3) Functions of the Department of Homeland Security relating to the following:
 - 21 (A) Border and Port Security (except immigration policy and non-border
22 enforcement)
 - 23 (B) Customs (except customs revenue)
 - 24 (C) Integration, analysis, and dissemination of homeland security information
 - 25 (D) Domestic preparedness for the collective response to terrorism
 - 26 (E) Research and development
 - 27 (F) Transportation Security
 - 28 (G) Cybersecurity

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30 Oversight Jurisdiction
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32 Clause 3(g) of Rule X of the Rules of the House of Representatives for the 118th
33 Congress defines the Committee on Homeland Security’s special oversight functions as follows:
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- 35 (1) The Committee on Homeland Security shall review all Government activities relating
36 to homeland security, including interaction of all departments and agencies with the
37 Department of Homeland Security.
- 38 (2) In addition, the committee shall review and study on a primary and continuing
39 basis all Government activities, programs, and organizations related to homeland
40 security that fall within its primary legislative jurisdiction.

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42 This is the authorization and oversight plan for the Committee on Homeland Security for
43 the 118th Congress. It includes the areas in which the Committee expects to conduct oversight
44 but does not preclude oversight or investigation of additional matters as needs arise. The
45 Committee will examine the following key priorities, among other issues.
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SECURE AMERICA'S BORDERS

4 The crisis at America's borders has become a national security and humanitarian disaster
5 that must be addressed immediately. During the 118th Congress, the Committee will conduct
6 rigorous oversight on the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) land and maritime border
7 security operations. In the last two plus years, there have been over 4.7 million migrant
8 encounters at the Southwest border, in addition to over 1.2 million known gotaways who evaded
9 Border Patrol agents, as has been publicly reported. In just the first four months of fiscal year
10 2023, 53 individuals whose names appeared on the terrorist watchlist were stopped trying to
11 cross the U.S.-Mexico border between ports of entry. This total is more than the encounters
12 of FY17, FY18, FY19, FY20, and FY21 combined and is on track to exceed the disturbing 98
13 encounters of FY22. Additionally, in FY23 alone, CBP has seized over 8,600 pounds of fentanyl
14 coming across the Southwest border—enough to kill over 1.9 billion people. In this same period,
15 CBP has arrested 9,445 individuals with criminal convictions including 209 known gang
16 members, with 68 of those being MS-13 members.

17
18 The Committee will examine the Department's implementation of their multi-layered
19 enforcement strategy on preventing the entry of illegal aliens, terrorists, illicit narcotics, and
20 other illicit contraband into the country. The Committee will also examine the Department's
21 front-line law enforcement staffing challenges, technologies used to secure the borders and
22 acquisition efforts of border security technologies, and the Department's six-pillar border
23 security plan. The Committee will examine the appropriate use, maintenance, and readiness of
24 technologies and monitor the Inspector General's (IG) investigation of dismantling or accidental
25 shut offs of technology systems. Finally, the Committee will examine the Department's efforts to
26 identify, detain, prioritize, and remove criminal aliens from the United States, including those
27 apprehended at or near U.S. borders and ports of entry who are subject to removal, particularly
28 those from special interest countries.

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PROTECT AGAINST CYBERATTACKS

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33 Americans are increasingly bombarded with cyber threats that no region of the country
34 and no business sector can ignore. The homeland faces cyber threats from criminal actors and
35 nation-state adversaries targeting government and private entities alike – including hospitals,
36 schools, and financial systems. Strengthening the cybersecurity of our nation's critical
37 infrastructure is vital to securing national security, the economy, and Americans' way of life.
38 The Committee will focus on oversight of landmark cyber laws enacted during the 117th
39 Congress and oversight of the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) in its
40 role protecting federal and private sector networks.
41

1 Equipped with broader and more concrete jurisdiction over cybersecurity under the new
2 Rules of the 118th Congress, the Committee intends to rapidly mature and optimize the country’s
3 lead federal civilian cybersecurity agency, CISA, to protect the nation’s federal networks and the
4 16 critical infrastructure sectors that underpin the American way of life. The Committee will
5 examine CISA’s ability to execute its new authorities and funding and quantitatively exhibit its
6 value-add in improving federal and critical infrastructure cybersecurity.
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9 **REFORM DHS**

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11 The Committee intends to conduct oversight on the structure of the Department and
12 examine reforms that will make DHS more efficient and able to accomplish its mission. This will
13 include an examination of DHS’s reporting structures to Congress. While some elements of the
14 Department have flourished since its establishment in 2003, many have failed to realize their full
15 potential. Other elements have simply floundered, unable to find and execute their mission. The
16 Committee looks forward to receiving the Department’s Quadrennial Homeland Security Review
17 (QHSR) which should lay the groundwork for a future vision of DHS.
18

19 Management challenges continue to plague the Department despite years of
20 Departmental, Government Accountability Office (GAO), IG and Congressional efforts to
21 remedy them – all at great expense to the American taxpayer. While the Committee sees itself as
22 a champion for the hard-working men and women of DHS, especially those serving on the
23 frontlines, inefficient management practices erode the viability of implementing the DHS
24 mission(s). As the Department evolves and adds new offices, the Committee must continue to
25 hold missions and offices accountable and be vigilant about new initiatives that DHS pursues.
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27 As part of this oversight, the Committee will look to form a task force to lead an overall
28 review of the DHS enterprise, with the eventual goal of reauthorizing the Department.
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35 **SUBCOMMITTEE ON BORDER SECURITY AND ENFORCEMENT**

36 37 **BORDER SECURITY BARRIERS, TECHNOLOGY, AND PERSONNEL**

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39 The Committee will examine the integration and effectiveness of transportation and
40 border security screening systems at ports of entry for detecting high-risk passengers, cargo, and
41 illicit narcotics transported across U.S. borders, including the Department’s efforts to better
42 facilitate legitimate trade and travel such as the Department’s trusted traveler programs and the

1 expansion of CBP Preclearance locations. This oversight will include on-site hearings of the
2 subcommittee.

3 The Committee will continue its rigorous oversight of the implementation of the
4 Department's biometric entry and exit system in the air, sea and land environments. Additionally,
5 the Committee will examine the technology and infrastructure needs at ports of entry to better
6 facilitate legitimate trade and travel, while also examining technology needs between ports of
7 entry to detect illegal crossings. It will also examine the implementation of non-intrusive
8 inspection technology to better detect illicit narcotics, weapons, other illicit contrabands, and
9 materials that pose potential nuclear and radiological threats.

10 The Committee will examine the Department's policies and plans to address the
11 requirements for border barrier projects, including the termination of contracts for border barrier
12 construction along the southern border, as well as the Department's front-line law enforcement
13 staffing and morale challenges. Additionally, the Committee will examine the DHS Joint Task
14 Force Authorization which will expire on September 30, 2024.

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16 **VISA SECURITY AND BORDER SCREENING PROGRAMS**

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18 The Committee intends to review efforts to assist border and consular officials to ensure
19 the deployment and implementation of effective training and infrastructure enhancements to
20 identify, intercept, and disrupt known or suspected terrorists attempting to enter the United
21 States, including known or suspected members of transnational criminal organizations. The
22 Committee will examine the continued integration, security, and reliability of various law
23 enforcement and intelligence-based databases used to screen immigrants seeking to enter the
24 country, as well as address any security-related deficiencies or gaps in the immigration process
25 that known or suspected terrorists could use to gain entry or remain in the country for illegitimate
26 purposes.

27

28 **PORT SECURITY**

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30 In the 118th Congress, the Committee will examine the security of port facilities,
31 including the screening of vessels and passengers for potential terrorists, weapons, and other
32 illicit contraband. The Committee also plans to review how the Department manages emerging
33 risks from maritime threats, while addressing gaps and vulnerabilities in the maritime border
34 environment. The Committee will continue its oversight of an increasing rate of maritime
35 smugglings of humans and illicit narcotics along the coastlines of the U.S.

36 The Committee plans to review the efficiency and effectiveness of the Department's
37 supply chain security programs, such as the Customs Trade Partnership Against Terrorism

1 (CTPAT), as well as monitor the implementation of the *Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act* to
2 prevent imports made with forced labor from entering U.S. markets. The Committee will
3 examine the need to utilize a risk-based methodology and the future of the Radiation Portal
4 Monitor program to ensure a proper balance between the facilitation of lawful trade and the
5 security of the homeland.

6 The Committee will examine the operations and procedures of U.S. Customs and Border
7 Protection’s Air and Marine Operations (AMO), specifically looking at AMO’s interagency
8 working relationships with law enforcement and Department partners and its capabilities and
9 authorities. The Committee will review AMO’s operational platforms and future acquisition
10 programs to ensure both aviation and maritime assets are capable of meeting future mission
11 needs and service requirements to keep America secure. The issue of port security will also be
12 shared with the Transportation and Maritime Security Subcommittee.

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15 **SUBCOMMITTEE ON COUNTERTERRORISM, LAW ENFORCEMENT,**
16 **AND INTELLIGENCE**
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18 United States homeland security is inextricably tied to the international threat landscape.
19 Vulnerabilities in one country can quickly become security threats in another, including the U.S.
20 homeland. During the 118th Congress, the Committee will examine the capabilities and efforts of
21 the Department of Homeland Security to identify, prevent, deter, and respond to threats to the
22 homeland. The Committee’s oversight will specifically examine the capabilities and efforts of
23 the Office of Intelligence and Analysis (I&A), the Department of Homeland Security
24 Intelligence Enterprise, and the Department’s coordination with federal, state, and local law
25 enforcement. The Committee will also explore the growing effort to further integrate cyber-
26 threat intelligence reporting with alternative intelligence streams to create a more holistic
27 intelligence picture.

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30 **EMERGING THREATS AND HOMELAND COUNTERTERRORISM ACTIVITIES**
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33 The Committee will examine worldwide threats to the U.S. homeland from terrorist
34 groups, including the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS), al Qaeda core, al Qaeda in the
35 Arabian Peninsula (AQAP), al Qaeda in the Islamic Maghreb (AQIM), al Shabaab, the Islamic
36 Revolutionary Guard Corps (IRGC), and other emerging groups that seek to establish safe
37 havens or plot attacks against U.S. citizens and the homeland. The Committee will examine the
38 threat from Foreign Terrorist Organizations following the 2021 U.S. troop withdrawal from
39 Afghanistan.

40
41 The Committee will also examine the threat from homegrown violent extremists and
42 terrorist networks in the United States. The Committee will monitor issues related to foreign
43 fighter travel and trends, economic threats, and terrorist financing. The Committee will continue

1 its oversight of the DHS Disinformation Governance Board (or similar projects) to ensure that
2 the Constitutional rights of Americans to free speech are not being violated.
3

4 The Committee will conduct oversight hearings to assess the degree to which narcotics
5 and human traffickers exhibit behaviors and actions consistent with terrorist organizations so that
6 the Committee can act through legislation to better challenge these threats to the American
7 people.
8

9 10 **INTERNATIONAL COUNTERTERRORISM PARTNERSHIPS** 11

12
13 The Committee will review U.S. counterterrorism cooperation with major foreign partners,
14 with the goal of improving the efficiency and effectiveness of international information sharing,
15 training and best practices, and coordination. The Committee will examine international
16 counterterrorism agreements and gather data from departments and agencies, as well as foreign
17 partners.
18

19 20 **HOMELAND SECURITY AND INTELLIGENCE ENTERPRISE** 21

22
23 The Committee will conduct oversight of DHS's Intelligence Enterprise (DHS IE),
24 including intelligence activities throughout the Department and component agencies. This will
25 include a focus on the coordination and collaboration across intelligence offices and personnel
26 within the headquarters' elements and component agencies. Additionally, the Committee will
27 review efforts to build the intelligence, analytical, and assessment capabilities of the Department
28 and efforts to ensure its full participation in the Intelligence Community as part of its homeland
29 security mission. This will include an examination of the hiring authorities, practices, training
30 policies, and career-development of intelligence analysts and professionals within Headquarters
31 elements and component agencies.
32

33 The Committee will examine the Department's role in managing, distributing, and using
34 terrorist threat information in furtherance of its homeland security mission. The Committee will
35 monitor the extent to which DHS effectively coordinates and collaborates with other federal,
36 state, and local agencies to mitigate threats to the homeland. Specifically, the Committee will
37 assess the degree to which the Office of Intelligence and Analysis effectively supports state,
38 local, tribal, and territorial law enforcement partners and other stakeholders. The Committee will
39 also review how DHS agencies collect and share information, including through vital security
40 vetting programs and federal terrorist or criminal watchlists.
41

42 The Committee will continue to assess the development of DHS counterintelligence
43 programs, with a particular focus on securing any existing departmental supply chain
44 vulnerabilities. The efforts are intended to prevent adversaries from penetrating the Department
45 to exploit sensitive information, operations, programs, personnel, and resources.
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3 **INFORMATION SHARING**

4 The Committee will examine the Department’s efforts to improve homeland security and
5 terrorism information sharing among federal, state, and local governments; law enforcement
6 entities; first responders and emergency management personnel; and the private sector. The
7 Committee will examine the Department’s initiatives to coordinate information sharing to and
8 from state and local fusion centers throughout the country and will continue to evaluate the
9 efficacy and efficiency of the National Network of Fusion Centers, along with their working
10 relationship with the Office of Intelligence and Analysis, to determine their impact on securing
11 the homeland. The Committee will also review coordination and information sharing procedures
12 between state and local fusion centers and Joint Terrorism Task Forces.

13 The Committee will examine the Department’s role in managing, distributing, and
14 otherwise using terrorist threat information in furtherance of its homeland security mission. The
15 Committee will also examine how the Department’s component agencies conduct outreach to
16 state and local law enforcement agencies, as well as other emergency response agencies, to
17 identify best practices and address ongoing deficiencies.
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20 **UNITED STATES SECRET SERVICE**
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23 The Committee will examine the operations of the United States Secret Service,
24 including its protection responsibilities and efforts to investigate financial and cybercrimes. The
25 Committee will also review the USSS staffing model to determine whether it has adequate
26 resources to meet its current and projected needs. The Committee will examine the Secret
27 Service’s lead role in planning and executing security operations for National Special Security
28 Events and conduct oversight into the Secret Service’s policies to mitigate malign influences,
29 especially those stemming from foreign malign actors that seek to leverage federal law
30 enforcement entities to their benefit, a possibility illuminated by the 2022 investigation of
31 individuals fraudulently acting as federal agents in D.C.’s Navy Yard neighborhood. The
32 Committee will also review cultural leadership issues that were responsible for high profile,
33 embarrassing, judgement failures.
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36 **RADICALIZATION, PROPAGANDA, AND INFLUENCE**
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39 The Committee will examine the security implications of foreign influence and
40 propaganda directed at the homeland, state-sponsored influence and espionage campaigns,
41 occurring both in the physical world and cyber realm, stemming from the People’s Republic of
42 China, Russia, Iran, and North Korea. The Committee will also examine the recruiting and
43 radicalization efforts by terrorist networks and propaganda developed and distributed by foreign
44 adversaries. The Committee will assess homegrown terror threats, and federal, state and local
45 efforts to address those threats.
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2 **SUBCOMMITTEE ON CYBERSECURITY AND INFRASTRUCTURE**
3 **PROTECTION**

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6 **CYBERSECURITY**
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8 During the 118th Congress, the Committee will conduct oversight of all the cybersecurity
9 activities of the Department of Homeland Security and, in particular, activities within CISA.
10 Areas of examination will include Executive Order 14028, *Improving the Nation’s*
11 *Cybersecurity*, the Department’s Cybersecurity Talent Management System, and operations of
12 CISA’s EINSTEIN and Continuous Diagnostics and Mitigation (CDM) programs for securing
13 federal networks.
14

15 Pursuant to the Rules for the 118th Congress, the Committee will utilize the addition of
16 “cybersecurity” to its legislative jurisdiction to take charge on reviewing CISA’s role in
17 strengthening the cyber resilience of the federal civilian executive branch, as well as the
18 cybersecurity functions of other DHS components. As such, the Committee will consider the
19 organization of CISA to ensure that the component is properly structured to carry out the *Federal*
20 *Information Systems Modernization Act of 2014*, the *Cybersecurity and Information Sharing Act*
21 *of 2015*, and the *Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency Act of 2018*, as efficiently as
22 possible. The Committee will also examine ways to further build CISA’s cybersecurity
23 capability and capacity, in order to implement newly assigned statutory authorities and
24 requirements while addressing areas of overlap with other federal agencies.
25

26 The Committee will lead quarterly meetings of relevant House Committees to conduct
27 oversight, coordinate, and recommend changes to facilitate a whole of government approach to
28 cybersecurity.
29

30 The Committee will examine the implementation of cybersecurity legislation enacted
31 during the 117th Congress including: the *Cyber Incident Reporting for Critical Infrastructure Act*
32 *of 2022*, (Pub. L. 117-103) (requiring reporting and other actions to address cybersecurity
33 incidents, including ransomware attacks); the *State and Local Cybersecurity Improvement Act*
34 (Pub. L. 117-58) (establishing a grant program to address cybersecurity risks); the *K-12*
35 *Cybersecurity Act of 2021* (Pub. L. 117-47) (requiring CISA to study the cyber risk facing
36 elementary and secondary schools and develop recommendations); the *National Cybersecurity*
37 *Preparedness Consortium Act of 2021* (Pub. L. 117-122) (developing cybersecurity training to
38 state, tribal, and local first responders and officials); the *State and Local Government*
39 *Cybersecurity Act of 2021* (Pub. L. 117-150) (providing for collaboration between DHS and
40 state, local, tribal, and territorial governments as well as the general public on cybersecurity); the
41 *U.S.-Israel Cybersecurity Cooperation Act* (Pub. L. 117-81) (contributing to the cybersecurity
42 research and development of both the U.S. and Israel); the *DHS Industrial Control Systems*
43 *Capabilities Enhancement Act* (Pub. L. 117-81) (providing CISA authority to address threats to
44 industrial control systems); the *DHS Roles and Responsibilities in Cyber Space Act*, the

1 *Cybersecurity Grants for Schools Act*, the *President’s Cup Cybersecurity Competition Act*, and
2 the *ICS Cybersecurity Training Act* (Pub. L. 117-263) (providing additional authorities for CISA
3 in the FY23 National Defense Authorization Act).

4
5 Finally, the Committee will conduct oversight on the government’s preparations for the
6 impact that Quantum Computing and Artificial Intelligence will have on cybersecurity.

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9 **PROTECTION OF CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE**

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12 In the 118th Congress, the Committee will examine CISA’s programs to protect critical
13 infrastructure, with focus on internal coordination mechanisms to ensure that expertise from both
14 the cyber and physical ‘sides of the house’ can be leveraged efficiently and effectively. The
15 Committee will also review how DHS, through CISA, works with the various critical
16 infrastructure sectors and their respective sector risk management agencies pursuant to
17 Presidential Policy Directive-21, *Critical Infrastructure Security and Resilience* (PPD–21).

18
19 During the 118th Congress the Committee will continue to oversee the Department’s
20 implementation of the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standard (CFATS) program, which
21 requires high risk chemical facility owners and operators to report chemical holdings, perform
22 vulnerability assessments, and adopt risk-based security measures to protect against the threat of
23 a terrorist attack. *An act to extend the Chemical Facility Anti-Terrorism Standards Program of*
24 *the Department of Homeland Security, and for other purposes*, (Pub. L. 116-150), conveys
25 CFATS statutory authority until July 27, 2023, at which point the Committee will rely on these
26 oversight activities and findings to consider improvements or modifications to the CFATS
27 program which can be achieved through reauthorization.

28
29 Additionally, the Committee will continue to oversee CISA’s implementation of the
30 National Cybersecurity Protection System (NCPS), or EINSTEIN. EINSTEIN is one of CISA’s
31 key technologies within NCPS that assists in federal network defense. Originally authorized in
32 2015 for a seven-year period, NCPS was extended through the *Consolidated Appropriations Act*
33 *of 2023* (Pub. L. 117-328) until September 30, 2023, at which point the Committee will rely on
34 these oversight activities and findings to consider improvements or modifications to the NCPS
35 program.

1 **SUBCOMMITTEE ON EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT AND**
2 **TECHNOLOGY**

3 **PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE**

4
5 During the 118th Congress, the Committee will review the Federal Emergency
6 Management Agency’s (FEMA) response and recovery efforts for declared disasters to ensure
7 capabilities are enhanced by lessons learned and federal resources are used appropriately. The
8 Committee will specifically conduct oversight of FEMA’s response to Hurricane Maria in Puerto
9 Rico. The Committee will investigate issues, if any, of waste, fraud, and abuse associated with
10 FEMA’s disaster response efforts (for example the response to Hurricanes Ida, Fiona and the
11 2022 Western Wildfires), including efforts related to the COVID-19 Pandemic. Further, the
12 Committee will review FEMA’s efforts to improve preparedness, response, recovery, and
13 mitigation regarding safeguarding our Nation’s critical infrastructure.

14
15 **ASSISTANCE TO STATE AND LOCAL GOVERNMENTS AND FIRST RESPONDERS**

16
17 The Committee will examine FEMA’s allocation and administration of grants to enhance
18 the ability of state and local governments and emergency response providers to prevent, prepare
19 for, respond to, mitigate, and recover from a terrorist attack. The Committee will review the
20 coordination of grant programs within the Department of Homeland Security in developing
21 guidance and administering grants; the ability of state and local governments to access, obligate,
22 and expend funds; the strength of regional partnerships developed through grants; and the risk-
23 based distribution and expenditure of such grants at the state and local levels.

24
25 **CHEMICAL, BIOLOGICAL, RADIOLOGICAL, AND NUCLEAR PLANNING,**
26 **PREPAREDNESS, AND RESPONSE**

27
28 During the 118th Congress, the Committee will examine the significant challenges posed
29 by chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) agents to the homeland and conduct
30 oversight over the Department’s Countering Weapons of Mass Destruction Office (CWMD) to
31 assess efforts in combatting CBRN threats. The Congressional authorization for the CWMD
32 Office will expire in December of 2023 – an issue that the Committee will work on in the 118th
33 Congress. The Committee will oversee the Department’s efforts to predict and respond to the
34 evolving CBRN threat landscape, and ensure that CBRN expenditures are risk-based,
35 coordinated, and are wise uses of taxpayer dollars. Further, the Committee will assess the recent
36 consolidating and streamlining of health security activities within DHS.

1 **EMERGENCY COMMUNICATIONS**

2
3 In the 118th Congress, the Committee will examine the coordination of various
4 communications programs and offices within the Department of Homeland Security, including
5 the achievement and maintenance of interoperable communications capabilities among the
6 Department's components, as required by the *Department of Homeland Security Interoperable*
7 *Communications Act (Pub. Law 114-29)*. The Committee will monitor activities of the First
8 Responder Network Authority (FirstNet) and the development of the public safety interoperable
9 wireless broadband network. In addition, the Committee will review the Department's Integrated
10 Public Alert and Warning System to ensure timely and effective alerts and warnings are provided
11 to the public in the event of an emergency.

12
13 **TRAINING AND EXERCISES**

14
15 During the 118th Congress, the Committee will review the Department's training and
16 exercise programs, including awareness and availability of these resources to first responders and
17 state and local governments. The Committee will review existing training centers and determine
18 whether the Department is optimally utilizing these facilities to enhance first responder terrorism
19 preparedness. The Committee will also examine the Department's efforts to streamline and
20 improve the National Exercise Program to ensure the program enhances the preparedness of the
21 Nation. The Committee will monitor the extent to which FEMA is incorporating lessons learned
22 from national exercises into future training, planning, and response, recovery, and mitigation
23 activities.

24
25 **RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT**

26
27 The Committee will conduct oversight of the Science and Technology Directorate (S&T)
28 and its ability to provide DHS components with the technology advancements needed to
29 effectively carry out their respective missions. The Committee will examine S&T's collaboration
30 with the Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDC) and the transparency
31 with which S&T reports this work to Congress. During the 118th Congress, the Committee will
32 also examine the effectiveness of the S&T Centers of Excellence to provide the DHS
33 components with advanced technologies that help them carry out their respective missions.

1 **SUBCOMMITTEE ON OVERSIGHT, INVESTIGATIONS AND**
2 **ACCOUNTABILITY**

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5 **DEPARTMENTAL EFFICIENCY AND WASTE, FRAUD, ABUSE AND DUPLICATION**
6

7 In the 118th Congress, the Committee will examine the Department of Homeland
8 Security’s day-to-day operations to ensure that it is operating in the most efficient and effective
9 manner possible. The Committee will work to identify potential opportunities to eliminate
10 duplicative or unnecessary programs, find efficiencies that will contribute to the Department’s
11 ability to meet its vital missions, and identify areas for cost savings. The Committee will also
12 conduct rigorous oversight to ensure the Department conducts effective outreach to the private
13 sector and utilizes commercial best practices, as appropriate. The Committee will look into
14 developing a scorecard that will report on the Department’s performance across a broad range of
15 activities and missions within the Department. The Committee will conduct oversight to ensure
16 that the Department of Homeland Security is not discriminating against its employees based on
17 political or religious beliefs.
18

19 Additionally, this subcommittee will take the lead on numerous investigations and
20 oversight projects surrounding border security, cyber security, and other issues that cross over
21 multiple subcommittees.
22

23 **DHS MANAGEMENT FUNCTIONS (PROCUREMENT, FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT,**
24 **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY, HUMAN CAPITAL MANAGEMENT & SECURITY)**
25

26 During the 118th Congress, the Committee will review the efforts of the Department to
27 improve its management functions. Management challenges continue to plague the Department
28 despite years of Departmental, Government Accountability Office (GAO), Inspector General
29 (IG), and Congressional efforts to remedy them. The Committee will continue its oversight of the
30 Department of Homeland Security’s progress to properly manage financial systems and data to
31 minimize inefficient and wasteful spending, make more informed decisions to manage its
32 programs, and implement Department policies with an eye for establishing punitive legislation
33 should failure to fix these issues continue. Additionally, the Committee will review the
34 Department’s efforts to address information technology (IT) challenges, including the
35 management and integration of the Department’s IT systems. The Committee will review the
36 authorities and activities of the Chief Information Officer (CIO) and component CIOs to ensure
37 the effective management, oversight, and coordination of these key functions. The Committee
38 will monitor the Department’s progress in IT architectural planning, investment management,
39 cloud computing, policy development, operations, and related personnel management.
40 Additionally, the Committee will conduct oversight on the acquisitions process from beginning
41 to end.
42

43 The Committee will also continue its oversight of the Department’s efforts to establish a
44 centralized and modernized human resources IT program. The Committee will monitor the
45 Department’s implementation of the *DHS Contract Reporting Act* which was signed into law in
46 the 117th Congress (Pub. L. 117-263).

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3 **CHINA’S INFLUENCE ON THE HOMELAND**
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6 The Committee will closely monitor the Peoples Republic of China’s (PRC) attempts to
7 influence the homeland. As the United States continues its great power struggle with the PRC,
8 the Chinese Communist Party (CCP) continues to pursue a national strategy to assert themselves
9 as the head of the global order while degrading America’s power militarily, diplomatically, and
10 economically. The CCP’s aggressive “Military-Civil Fusion” strategy drives their goal of
11 positioning the People’s Liberation Army (PLA) as the most technologically advanced military
12 in the world by 2049.
13

14 The CCP is implementing its strategy through theft of the world’s cutting-edge
15 technologies. As the premier pioneer of both civilian and military research and development, the
16 United States is a key target of the CCP’s espionage efforts. In order to shine a light on these, the
17 Committee (both at full Committee and subcommittee) will hold a series of hearings related to
18 the activities of China in the homeland on the areas of military intellectual property, academic
19 research and development, economic security, and political influence.
20

21 **ECONOMIC SECURITY**
22

23 In the 118th Congress, the Committee will examine three areas of economic security:
24 implementation of the *Uyghur Forced Labor Prevention Act (UFLPA)*, critical homeland
25 security domains, and the Arctic. These issues will involve several subcommittees.
26

27 The economy is the backbone of our country, and it is imperative that we ensure that
28 markets can function without being manipulated by our adversaries – this was never more
29 apparent than in the COVID pandemic when China manipulated the PPE market to the detriment
30 of the rest of the world. The Committee will conduct oversight on how China’s economic
31 expansion, and manipulation of markets and supply chains threaten the economic security of the
32 homeland. The Committee will hold hearings on how China’s economic expansion and tactics
33 threaten our homeland security.
34

35 The Committee will closely monitor the report required by the *Domains Critical to*
36 *Homeland Security Act* that is due to Congress, as well as the implementation of the *DHS Trade*
37 *and Economic Security Act*, both signed into law in the 117th Congress (*Pub.L. 117-81 and Pub.*
38 *L. 117-263, respectively*).
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1 **SUBCOMMITTEE ON TRANSPORTATION AND MARITIME SECURITY**

2
3 During the 118th Congress, the Committee plans to examine the Department's efforts to
4 develop and implement strategies to address terrorist threats in varied transportation
5 environments, including both air and surface transportation. The Committee will review the
6 effectiveness of the Transportation Security Administration's (TSA) passenger, baggage, and
7 cargo screening programs and operations. The Committee will also encourage TSA to find new
8 ways to leverage private sector expertise, innovation, and technologies in its mission to secure
9 the Nation's critical transportation systems. Finally, the Committee will work with the other
10 Committees of jurisdiction on the reauthorization of the expiring Counter Unmanned Aerial
11 Systems (C-UAS) authorities.

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14 **AVIATION SECURITY**

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17 The Committee will examine how TSA is ensuring that passengers that are designated
18 high-risk are receiving enhanced screening at the checkpoint. The Committee will assess whether
19 there are additional ways for TSA to enhance security and implement risk-based strategies at
20 screening checkpoints. Specifically, the Committee will conduct oversight on TSA's efforts to
21 procure advanced screening technology, including but not limited to: Computed Tomography
22 (CT), Credential Authentication Technology (CAT), and "detection at range". The Committee
23 will also engage with TSA, the aviation industry, and international partners on the
24 implementation of the *One-Stop Pilot Program Act* which was signed into law in the 117th
25 Congress (Pub.L.117-263).

26
27 The Committee will continue to examine TSA's long-term goals for TSA Pre✓TM and
28 assess the effectiveness of TSA's passenger, baggage and cargo screening operations. The
29 Committee will evaluate TSA's successes and challenges in expanding enrollment in TSA
30 Pre✓TM, including through contracts with private sector entities. The Committee will monitor
31 TSA's efforts to protect the civil rights and liberties of passengers.

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33 Finally, the Committee will conduct oversight on the No-Fly List, including the recent
34 hack by a Switzerland-based cyber actor. The Committee will also conduct oversight to ensure
35 that the No-Fly list is maintained without political or other bias.

1 **PRIVATE SECTOR ENGAGEMENT**

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4 The Committee will conduct oversight to ensure that TSA is effectively engaging the
5 private sector to improve the effectiveness and efficiency of its operations. The Committee will
6 work to ensure that stakeholders are properly consulted on major security policy decisions and
7 airport staffing allocations, through the Aviation Security Advisory Committee or other means.
8 The Committee will conduct oversight of TSA’s Screening Partnership Program, while exploring
9 ways to enhance opportunities for the agency to work with the private sector.
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11 **SURFACE TRANSPORTATION SECURITY**

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15 The Committee will review TSA’s efforts to secure surface transportation systems,
16 including the highest-risk mass transit and rail systems. The Committee’s oversight will include
17 a review of the Visible Intermodal Prevention and Response Program (VIPR), the Surface
18 Transportation Security Inspection Program, and TSA’s surface transportation security
19 regulations. Additionally, the Committee will conduct increased oversight on TSA’s
20 cybersecurity directives for pipelines, freight rail, and passenger rail, as TSA transitions from
21 security directives to rulemaking.
22

23 The Committee will also review the extent to which TSA effectively coordinates with its
24 federal, state, local, and private sector partners to secure the Nation’s transportation systems and
25 to help prevent conflicting or unnecessarily redundant regulations. Finally, the Committee will
26 assess the effectiveness of TSA’s efforts to secure the Nation’s pipeline systems through TSA’s
27 oversight and inspection activities.
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29 **TARGETING WASTE, FRAUD, AND ABUSE**

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31 The Committee will conduct oversight to identify and prevent waste, fraud, or abuse
32 within TSA. As part of this overall effort, the Committee will examine TSA’s existing
33 acquisition processes, engagement with small businesses in the private sector, and strategic
34 planning. The Committee will also conduct oversight on how American tax dollars are spent to
35 avoid wasteful spending on technologies that do not perform as intended.
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37 The Committee will continue to examine hiring practices at TSA and the persistent
38 challenges that TSA faces with employee morale. Finally, the Committee will also look at TSA’s
39 process of designating information as Sensitive Security Information to determine if the
40 designation is being abused.
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1 **MARITIME SECURITY**

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4 The Committee will examine various aspects of maritime security, including the security
5 of port facilities and the screening of vessels, passengers, cargo, and crew, for potential terrorists,
6 terrorist weapons, and contraband. The Committee will also examine the maritime cyber security
7 policies that govern all *Maritime Transportation Security Act* (MTSA) regulated facilities.
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9 The Committee will examine the Coast Guard’s role in the Arctic by reviewing the Coast
10 Guard’s Arctic Strategy and timeline on securing the Arctic maritime landscape. The Committee
11 will also review the resource and asset needs within the Coast Guard to determine whether the
12 service is operationally ready to address the increased demand of Coast Guard services and the
13 varied threats to America’s ports and waterways while pursuing a long-term sustainable path of
14 fleet recapitalization. This oversight will include on site hearings of the subcommittee.
15 Additionally, the Committee will conduct a detailed review of the Coast Guard’s implementation
16 of the Department’s financial and acquisition processes.
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18 The Committee will also review the Coast Guard’s missions, personnel, and capabilities
19 in the Indo-Pacific, which play a significant role in the Department’s ability to counter China.
20 Specifically, the Committee will examine the Coast Guard’s counter terrorism capabilities,
21 including the Maritime Safety and Security Teams (MSST), Port Security Units, Tactical Law
22 Enforcement Teams, and the Maritime Security Response Team.
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