NEWS ALERT



U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES Homeland Security Committee

Rep. Bennie G. Thompson, Chairman



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Statement of Chairman Bennie G. Thompson

"The Quadrennial Homeland Security Review"

July 30, 2008 (Washington) – Today, Committee on Homeland Security Chairman Bennie G. Thompson (D-MS) delivered the following prepared remarks for the Management, Investigations, and Oversight Subcommittee hearing entitled "The Quadrennial Homeland Security Review":

"The Department of Homeland Security has had a difficult beginning. When it first set sail in the spring of 2003, many Members of Congress – both Majority and Minority – saw serious difficulties on the horizon. It would be a challenge to bring 22 existing government agencies together.

Members of the House Committee on Homeland Security have labored long and hard with the Department's leaders to deal with DHS issues of organization, policy coherence, and programmatic consistency.

All of our Subcommittees have worked on these issues with Department leadership, each in its areas of specialization. But the Subcommittee on Management, Investigations, and Oversight has a general concern with moving the Department toward becoming more coherent and effective.

For this reason, this Subcommittee has a special role in the Congressionally mandated Quadrennial Homeland Security Review.

I believe I speak for all Members of the House Committee on Homeland Security in expressing my hope for the success of this project and my willingness to work with the Department to make this a reality."

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