

Currently, because of antiquated laws, CDCs participating in the PCLP must keep financial reserves in excess of what is actually necessary to safeguard against potential losses, and are not allowed to withdraw from these reserves until loans are paid in full.

This severely limits the lending potential of these entities, costing small businesses nationwide millions of dollars in unused capital.

H.R. 923 addresses this issue by allowing participating lenders to withdraw from their loan loss reserves attributable to the payment of principal on outstanding loans.

In addition, the legislation would also create a Bureau of Lender Oversight within SBA that will oversee the calculation of loan loss reserves, thereby insuring that government monies are used appropriately.

Mr. Speaker, as a Ranking Member of the Small Business Committee, I enthusiastically support this measure, and I support its swift passage.

Mrs. CHRISTENSEN. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, I yield back the balance of my time.

The SPEAKER pro tempore (Mr. PETRI). The question is on the motion offered by the gentleman from Illinois (Mr. MANZULLO) that the House suspend the rules and pass the bill, H.R. 923, as amended.

The question was taken.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. In the opinion of the Chair, two-thirds of those present have voted in the affirmative.

Mr. MANZULLO. Mr. Speaker, on that I demand the yeas and nays.

The yeas and nays were ordered.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 8 of rule XX and the Chair's prior announcement, further proceedings on this motion will be postponed.

#### HOMELAND SECURITY TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS ACT OF 2003

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I move to suspend the rules and pass the bill (H.R. 1416) to make technical corrections to the Homeland Security Act of 2002, as amended.

The Clerk read as follows:

H.R. 1416

*Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

#### SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the "Homeland Security Technical Corrections Act of 2003".

#### SEC. 2. TECHNICAL CORRECTIONS RELATING TO CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE INFORMATION.

Section 212(3) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-296; 6 U.S.C. 131(3)) is amended by striking "systems—" and inserting "systems insofar as such information pertains to—".

#### SEC. 3. VISA ISSUANCE.

Section 428(a) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-296; 6 U.S.C. 236(a)) is amended—

(1) by striking "subsection," and inserting "section,"; and

(2) by striking "office" and inserting "officer".

#### SEC. 4. RESPONSIBILITIES OF UNDER SECRETARY FOR EMERGENCY PREPAREDNESS AND RESPONSE.

Section 502 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-296; 6 U.S.C. 312) is

amended by striking "shall include—" and inserting "shall be responsible for—".

#### SEC. 5. MILITARY ACTIVITIES OF THE COAST GUARD.

Section 876 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-296; 6 U.S.C. 456) is amended to read as follows:

##### "SEC. 876. MILITARY ACTIVITIES.

"Nothing in this Act confers on the Secretary any authority over warfighting, the military defense of the United States, or other military activities that are authorized to be directed by the Secretary of Defense. This Act shall not be construed to limit the existing authority of the Secretary of Defense over warfighting, the military defense of the United States, or other military activities, including such activities of the Coast Guard when it is operating as a service in the Navy under section 3 of title 14, United States Code."

#### SEC. 6. ANNUAL INDEPENDENT EVALUATION OF INFORMATION SECURITY PROGRAM AND PRACTICES OF AGENCIES.

Section 3535(b)(1) of title 44, United States Code, is amended by inserting "or any other law" after "the Inspector General Act of 1978".

#### SEC. 7. IMMIGRATION-RELATED POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY AND THE ATTORNEY GENERAL.

(a) IN GENERAL.—Section 1102 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-296; 116 Stat. 2273) is amended—

(1) in the matter preceding paragraph (1), by striking "as amended by this Act, is further amended by—" and inserting "is amended—";

(2) by amending paragraph (1) to read as follows:

"(1) by amending the section heading to read as follows:

"POWERS AND DUTIES OF THE SECRETARY OF HOMELAND SECURITY AND THE ATTORNEY GENERAL";

(3) by amending paragraph (2)(D) to read as follows:

"(D) by redesignating the paragraph (8) added by section 372(3) of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996, and the paragraph (9) added by section 373 of such Act, as paragraphs (10) and (11), respectively; and";

(4) in the matter added by paragraph (3)—

(A) by striking "the Immigration Reform, Accountability and Security Enhancement Act of 2002." and inserting "the Homeland Security Act of 2002."; and

(B) by striking "this section" and inserting "this subsection".

(b) CONFORMING AMENDMENTS TO IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT.—

(1) SECTION 103.—Section 103 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1103) is amended—

(A) in subsection (a)—

(i) in paragraph (2)—

(I) by striking "He" and inserting "The Secretary of Homeland Security"; and

(II) by striking "of the Service." and inserting "of the Department of Homeland Security relating to the powers, functions, and duties conferred upon the Secretary by this Act and all other laws relating to the immigration and naturalization of aliens.";

(ii) in paragraph (3)—

(I) by striking "He" and inserting "The Secretary of Homeland Security";

(II) by striking "he deems" and inserting "the Secretary deems"; and

(III) by striking "his authority" and inserting "the Secretary's authority";

(iii) in paragraph (4)—

(I) by striking "He" and inserting "Except as otherwise provided by law, the Secretary of Homeland Security";

(II) by striking "the Service or the Department of Justice" and inserting "the Department of Homeland Security"; and

(III) by striking "employee of the Service." and inserting "employee of the Department.";

(iv) in paragraph (5)—

(I) by striking "He" and inserting "Except as otherwise provided by law, the Secretary of Homeland Security";

(II) by striking "in his discretion," and inserting "in the Secretary's discretion,"; and

(III) by striking "such number of employees of the Service as to him shall appear necessary and proper." and inserting "such number of employees of the Department of Homeland Security as shall appear necessary and proper to the Secretary.";

(v) in paragraph (6)—

(I) by striking "He" and inserting "The Secretary of Homeland Security"; and

(II) by striking "of the Service." and inserting "of the Department of Homeland Security.";

(vi) in paragraph (7)—

(I) by striking "He" and inserting "The Secretary of Homeland Security";

(II) by striking "of the Service" each place such term appears and inserting "of the Department of Homeland Security";

(III) by striking "he may," and inserting "the Secretary of Homeland Security may,"; and

(IV) by striking "in his judgment" and inserting "in the Secretary's judgment";

(vii) in paragraph (8), by striking "Attorney General" and inserting "Secretary of Homeland Security";

(viii) in paragraph (10) (as redesignated by section 1102 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002)—

(I) by striking "Attorney General" each place such term appears and inserting "Secretary of Homeland Security"; and

(II) by striking "of the Service." and inserting "of the Department."; and

(ix) in paragraph (11) (as so redesignated)—

(I) by striking "Attorney General" and inserting "Secretary of Homeland Security"; and

(II) by striking "by the Service" each place such term appears and inserting "by the Department";

(B) in subsection (b), by striking "Attorney General" each place such term appears and inserting "Secretary of Homeland Security";

(C) by amending subsection (c) to read as follows:

"(c) The Secretary of Homeland Security may enter into cooperative agreements with State and local law enforcement agencies for the purpose of assisting in the enforcement of the immigration laws.";

(D) in subsection (d), by striking "The Commissioner," and inserting "The Secretary of Homeland Security";

(E) in subsection (e)—

(i) by striking "The Commissioner" and inserting "The Secretary of Homeland Security"; and

(ii) by striking "district office of the Service" and inserting "field office of the Department of Homeland Security"; and

(F) in subsection (f)—

(i) by striking "Attorney General" and inserting "Secretary of Homeland Security";

(ii) by striking "of the Immigration and Naturalization Service" and inserting "of the Directorate of Border and Transportation Security of the Department of Homeland Security"; and

(iii) by striking "the functions of the Service," and inserting "the functions of the Directorate,".

(2) SECTION 287(g).—Section 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1357(g)) is amended by striking "Attorney

General" each place such term appears and inserting "Secretary of Homeland Security".

(c) CLERICAL AMENDMENTS.—

(1) HOMELAND SECURITY ACT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-296; 116 Stat. 2135) is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 1103 the following: "Sec. 1104. Effective date."

(2) IMMIGRATION AND NATIONALITY ACT.—The table of contents of the Immigration and Nationality Act is amended by amending the item relating to section 103 to read as follows:

"Sec. 103. Powers and duties of the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Attorney General."

(d) CONSTRUCTION.—The amendments made by this section shall not be construed to repeal, or limit the applicability of, section 456, 462(e), 1512(d), or 1517 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002, or any other similar provision pertaining to the treatment of references in law, with respect to any provision of law that is not amended by this section.

**SEC. 8. EFFECTIVE DATE OF MODIFICATIONS TO REORGANIZATION PLAN.**

Section 1502(d) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-296; 6 U.S.C. 542(d)) is amended by striking "subsection (d)" each place it appears and inserting "subsection (c)".

**SEC. 9. REPORT ON WAR RISK INSURANCE FOR AIR CARRIERS.**

Section 1204 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (116 Stat. 2287) is amended—

(1) by redesignating subparagraphs (A) through (C) as paragraphs (1) through (3), respectively, and by moving the text of such paragraphs 2 ems to the left;

(2) in the matter preceding paragraph (1) (as so redesignated) by striking "Secretary" and inserting "Secretary of Transportation"; and

(3) in paragraph (3) (as so redesignated) by striking "Department" and inserting "Department of Transportation".

**SEC. 10. AUTHORITY TO ARM FLIGHT DECK CREW WITH LESS-THAN-LETHAL WEAPONS.**

Section 1405(a) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (116 Stat. 2307) is amended by striking "section 6 of this Act" and inserting "section 1406 of this Act".

**SEC. 11. REQUIREMENT TO SUBMIT REPORTS AND NOTIFICATIONS TO SELECT COMMITTEE.**

(a) REQUIREMENT.—The Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-296) is amended by inserting after section 4 the following:

**"SEC. 5. REQUIREMENT TO SUBMIT REPORTS AND NOTIFICATIONS TO SELECT COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY.**

"In any case in which a report or notification is required by this Act or an amendment made by this Act to be submitted to the Congress or to a Committee of the Congress, such report shall also be submitted to the Select Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Representatives."

(b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-296) is amended by inserting after the item relating to section 4 the following:

"Sec. 5. Requirement to submit reports and notifications to Select Committee on Homeland Security."

**SEC. 12. CLARIFICATION OF REPORTING REQUIREMENT CONCERNING ELECTRONIC COMMUNICATIONS PRIVACY ACT EMERGENCY DISCLOSURE EXCEPTION.**

Section 225(d)(2) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-296; 116 Stat. 2157)

is amended by striking "2702(b) of title 18, United States Code," and inserting "2702(b)(7) of title 18, United States Code (as added by paragraph (1)(D))".

**SEC. 13. EFFECTIVE DATE.**

The amendments made by this Act shall take effect as if included in the enactment of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (Public Law 107-296).

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to the rule, the gentleman from California (Mr. COX) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TURNER) each will control 20 minutes.

The Chair recognizes the gentleman from California (Mr. COX).

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself 5 minutes.

Mr. Speaker, I want to thank my friend, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TURNER), the ranking minority member of the Select Committee on Homeland Security, and the rest of the committee members for devoting their time and energy to the important work of this committee. I rise today in support of H.R. 1416, which amends the Homeland Security Act.

Mr. Speaker, the broad bipartisan support given to this bill exemplifies the collaborative nature of our committee. This committee is united in its mission to provide aggressive oversight of the Department of Homeland Security and to ensure the full implementation of the Homeland Security Act. When President Bush called on Congress to create the Department of Homeland Security last year, the goal was to create a more secure America. By putting one department in charge of scores of agencies and programs, we can better protect our country, we can protect our critical infrastructure, and, most importantly, we can protect the American people.

Congress proved it was up to the challenge. In a display of bipartisan cooperation, in only 5 months Congress delivered to the President's desk for signature the 187-page Homeland Security Act of 2002. This law authorized the most comprehensive reorganization of the Federal executive branch since the creation of the Department of Defense in 1947. The act clearly laid out goals of the Department of Homeland Security: The prevention of another terrorist attack, the protection of our critical national infrastructure, and preparedness in the event we cannot prevent attacks on our domestic territory.

Key to this is our ability to collect, analyze and use timely and accurate intelligence information. This lies at the heart of the primary mission of preventing another terrorist attack. What we do not know empowers our enemies, but what we do know will help defeat them. By properly understanding the threats that confront us, we can better allocate our resources, and we can focus our security efforts where they are most needed, where the risks and potential consequences of attacks are greatest.

The Department of Homeland Security must analyze information quickly

and reliably so that it can marshal its own resources as needed and, more importantly, it must also transmit that information to those on the front lines, our State and local law enforcement and first responders, who protect us and our critical infrastructure.

The Homeland Security Committee has been overseeing the Department's early efforts to achieve this critical intelligence capability mandated by the Homeland Security Act and we will continue to do so. This committee and the Department of Homeland Security are also working together to ensure that a comprehensive security plan is in place to make the best use of intelligence. Critical elements of this security plan include a layered defense, effective border security, thorough passenger and baggage screening at America's airports, and a rigorous inspection process to keep would-be terrorists and their weapons out of the country.

Our first responders must also have the best information about pending threats as well as the training and the tools to respond to any disasters if they were to occur. The Homeland Security Act laid out a vision of a more secure America, which is now being realized through the efforts of the Department of Homeland Security working in concert with other Federal agencies, State and local governments, private industry, charitable organizations, community centers, and private citizens. Secretary Ridge and his staff are working diligently to coordinate these efforts and to complete this mission, a mission that is as difficult as it is important. I thank Secretary Ridge for his leadership and for being willing to work very closely with the Homeland Security Committee in the House during the act's implementation.

The legislation we are considering today is in itself an important aspect of the act's implementation. Congress' desire to expedite the creation of this important department meant that minor errors were made and certain details were omitted from the Homeland Security Act. As a result, my fellow Members and I felt that one of the first orders of business of the Homeland Security Committee in the current Congress should be to honor the original intentions of the drafters by making certain corrections to the act so that it can be properly implemented. Today's legislation successfully fills in the cracks created by the speedy construction of the Homeland Security Act and strengthens the legislation which is already helping the United States win the war on terror.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. TURNER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield myself such time as I may consume.

Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of H.R. 1416, the Homeland Security Technical Corrections Act, and I first want to thank the chairman, the gentleman from California (Mr. COX), for

his leadership of our new Select Committee on Homeland Security.

The legislation before us is a product of the bipartisan cooperation that we have on that committee. It has been a pleasure to work with the chairman. I know that all of our members who serve on that important select committee feel the same dedication that the chairman and I do to accomplishing the task of protecting America and to do it in a way that moves us forward in a more rapid and stronger way.

The select committee, of course, has been in business for just a few months, and no business is more important than the work of the House Select Committee on Homeland Security. We have quickly discovered that when it comes to doing all we can to protect America, our needs are indeed very great.

Mr. Speaker, we are, as we all know, involved in a great struggle: The war against international terrorism. It is not a war we sought, it is not a war we started, but it is a war that we must and we will finish. Mr. Speaker, we must move faster in some very critical areas. We must do a better job in determining how to meet the threat posed by international terrorism.

The testimony before our committee from some high officials in the Department of Homeland Security revealed to us that there are only 21 analysts matching intelligence on threats with our vulnerabilities and then recommending protective action. This critical area of the Department of Homeland Security, the responsibility which is housed within the Office of Information Analysis, has been the subject of scrutiny by our select committee, and both sides of the aisle have expressed concern about the lack of full functioning of that particular entity, which in many ways is the nerve center of the Department of Homeland Security.

It is perhaps the most important new addition that this Congress provided in the Homeland Security Act of 2002, to place within that department the responsibility for gathering the threat information and matching it against our vulnerabilities, and then using that information to direct the entire activities of the 22 agencies that were merged into that new department, and to further take that information, of matching threat against vulnerability, and providing it to our States and our local entities so that they will know how to protect their communities against the threat of terrorism.

We also learned in our committee, during a hearing on Project BioShield, that this very same Office of Information Analysis has to date only one, only one person dedicated to responding to the bioterrorist threat. Our committee, in a bipartisan hearing, shared our mutual concern for the failure to get that particular activity within that Office of Information Analysis functioning in a way that it must function in order to carry out the purpose and intent of the Project BioShield legisla-

tion that we will be considering on this floor in just a few days.

□ 1100

Mr. Speaker, I believe it is clear that all of us understand that we must move faster to ensure that this critical function of this Department is in place, up and running as soon as possible. It has become very clear that we as a Nation need to make the same commitment to the protection of our homeland as we made to securing victory in Afghanistan and Iraq. This Congress made sure that our 220,000 troops that fought in Operation Iraqi Freedom were supported by the best equipment and training in the world; and the cost of that battle, according to the appropriations made by this body, will approach \$65 billion.

Today, to secure America from the threat of terrorism, the Coast Guard has plans to review security for 4,400 port facilities and over 10,000 ships that enter our waters, and yet this Congress has yet to make the commitment to make sure that the funds are there to get the threat assessments done that are required to carry out that important responsibility. We must move faster.

Today we have only one person on guard for every 16 miles on our northern border. The PATRIOT Act called for the tripling of our forces on our northern border to close the gaps on our northern frontier. The resources have not yet been committed to deploy the 1,800 border personnel needed to enhance our security. We must do better, and we must move faster.

Today, we know that half of the firefighters' shifts across our Nation that will be the first called upon to respond to a terrorist attack lack the necessary communications equipment to deploy in the field so as to be able to talk to one another and to the other agencies that would be responding in the event of a terrorist attack. We must do better, and we must move faster.

Mr. Speaker, we have many challenges ahead of us, but I am confident that this legislation is but a first step in moving us forward as a Nation to be sure that we do everything necessary to be sure that every American can know that they will be safe and secure in their communities.

Mr. Speaker, I reserve the balance of my time.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Michigan (Mr. CAMP), the chairman of the Subcommittee on Borders and Infrastructure.

Mr. CAMP. Mr. Speaker, I rise in support of H.R. 1416, the Homeland Security Technical Corrections Act of 2003. This bipartisan bill makes grammatical and technical changes to the Homeland Security Act of 2002.

The Department of Homeland Security, the product of the Homeland Security Act, has existed for a little more than 100 days. The Homeland Security Act brought together a number of Fed-

eral agencies with homeland security functions into one collaborative effort, joining resources, information and missions to defend our Nation.

Protecting our Nation from attack requires strengthening our border defenses. We must know who and what is passing through our country. The American people deserve this level of security. Utilizing technology advancements, we can monitor individuals and intelligently screen cargo without delaying legitimate trade and travel. Cross-border commerce is critical to the American economy. Trade with Canada and Mexico, our country's top trading partners, is growing at a rapid pace with almost \$1.4 billion crossing the northern border every day; and with more than \$250 billion in trade per year with Mexico, our Nation cannot lose sight of the vital importance of the uninterrupted flow of trade as new policies for border security are pursued. Security and commerce are not mutually exclusive goals.

Since the Department of Homeland Security was officially created, coordination between border security agencies has definitely improved. Twenty-four hours a day, American citizens are patrolling our borders, searching cargo, and checking individual travelers. This is not new since September 11, 2001; however, we are now acutely aware of the threat to our Nation and people and have stepped up our response by uniting our security functions. As the new Department continues integrating and organizing, there are certain areas that the Federal Government needs to address.

As chairman of the Subcommittee on Border and Infrastructure of the Select Committee on Homeland Security, I look forward to working with the gentleman from California (Mr. COX) and the Department of Homeland Security to address security along our Nation's borders, over 300 ports of entry, and to better protect our critical infrastructure. As Congress continues to assist the new Department in meeting obligations in the act, I would like to thank the gentleman from California (Mr. COX) for bringing this technical corrections bill to the floor and for his leadership, and reiterate my support for H.R. 1416.

Mr. TURNER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ), who is the ranking member of the Subcommittee on Borders and Critical Infrastructure.

Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to talk about H.R. 1416, the Homeland Security Technical Corrections Act. I would like to commend our chairman, the gentleman from California (Mr. COX), for his leadership and stewardship, and also, of course, the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TURNER) for the stewardship that they have on this new Select Committee on Homeland Security and for their efforts to push this bill and to get it included on the suspension calendar.

H.R. 1416 is a historic bill because it is the first bill that our committee, the Select Committee on Homeland Security, will do. I trust that it is going to be the first of many bills that this committee will work on in a very bipartisan manner as we continue to tackle the many difficult issues surrounding homeland security.

Over the last month, members of our committee worked very diligently to look at the oversight function through a number of informative hearings and briefings. Unfortunately, however, the message is all too often the same: the Department of Homeland Security is not moving fast enough to fill the gaps that exist in so many areas of homeland security.

H.R. 1416 comes to the floor on the heels of a select committee delegation trip and field hearing in Southern California just this past weekend. The hearing focus was on one specific aspect of homeland security, port security. Our ports are one of the most vulnerable threat risks in our Nation, and we need to provide the means and resources for adequate security.

Every year, more than 4 million cargo containers accounting for 35 percent of all the U.S. international trade passes through the ports of Los Angeles and Long Beach. Over the weekend we saw for ourselves just how important this port is to economic and trade commerce issues for the United States and the global economy. And the message that we received from Southern California witnesses involved in port security was familiar to all of us because we had heard it from other witnesses in other areas of homeland security: they are understaffed, they are under-equipped, and they are under-funded.

Members of the Coast Guard told us they have not received the funding that they need for basic security upgrades. The United States Customs Inspector Program is understaffed, and employees that are there do not have the equipment that they need to adequately secure and check the containers, and resources needed are just the beginning of the problem that we saw at our ports. We heard from the sheriffs from both Los Angeles and Orange counties who are in desperate need of funding, especially Orange County, because unlike Los Angeles, we are not considered a high threat urban area and because funding of one of our most costly expenditures, personnel costs, simply does not exist at this point. They told us they have not seen any of the money that they were promised to cover personnel and other costs. The funds simply are not getting through the pipeline down to the local level.

In my community, the city of Anaheim where Disneyland is located, our police department spends over \$20,000 every day that we go from yellow to orange alert just on our police department. If we go to red alert, it is double that, almost \$40,000 additional money

every day; and yet we have not helped at the Federal level to get that money down to them. It does not include equipment that they need, supplies, the fire department personnel or personnel at the emergency operations center, and then there are other costs to consider also.

For instance, the Joint Terrorism Task Force that has been set up and is very effective in sharing intelligence and information between FBI and CIA and the local law enforcement agencies, the State of California, they want to participate in that and they do, but at their own costs. The city of Anaheim, at its own cost; the city of Santa Ana, at their own cost; the County of Orange, at their own cost.

Our first responders do not have the necessary resources to allow them to dedicate a few of their personnel to these effective anti-terrorism programs. This is a striking example of good solutions that exist where there are no resources to adequately implement them. The Department of Homeland Security has done a decent job in outlining what its mission is. However, we need to move quickly and forcefully to achieve that mission. The Department has a number of programs in place to improve homeland security. But so far the first responders, the people right at street level, handling information, trying to understand what is happening, trying to stop things from happening, and God forbid having to react to what happens, they have not seen the information they need nor the resources they need; and I hope that this is not just the first piece of legislation that our committee does, but that we continue our oversight function and our program function to get this done.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentlewoman from Washington (Ms. DUNN), the vice chairman of the Select Committee on Homeland Security.

Ms. DUNN. Mr. Speaker, every morning 180,000 of our fellow citizens go to work with one main thing on their mind, to prepare, to prevent and to respond to a potential terrorist attack in the United States. These people work for one of the 22 agencies that have been brought together under the umbrella of the Department of Homeland Security.

Homeland security has new meaning since September 11. We can no longer assume that we will be protected from terrorist acts. We now live in a world where we must prepare for possible attacks. For this reason, I was proud to support the President's request for the creation of a Department of Homeland Security that is solely focused, with a very laser-like focus, on the prevention and protection from terrorist attacks in this country.

Since its inception on January 24, 2003, the Department of Homeland Security has made significant strides in protecting the country from terrorist attacks. Let me give a few examples. In

March 2003, the Department opened its door and then it launched Operation Liberty Shield, the first comprehensive national plan to increase protections of American citizens and national infrastructure. Homeland security funding has increased over 1,000 percent from fiscal year 2001 to fiscal year 2004, and this has allowed States and localities to purchase new technologies and tools for first responders.

Recently the Department ran TOPOFF II, a simulated exercise in Seattle and Chicago using large-scale weapons of mass destruction. Exercises like this are very important to provide first responders the experience needed to know when the decisions are going to be made, who is going to make these decisions, and how to handle our resources.

While the Department of Homeland Security has had great success over the last 5 months, there are still many issues to be resolved. The House of Representatives took the appropriate steps at the beginning of the 108th Congress in establishing a Select Committee on Homeland Security to help Secretary Ridge in guiding and overseeing the newly created Department. As with all Federal agencies, it is very important to hold this large Department accountable to the people we represent. The Select Committee on Homeland Security will act as the people's voice to focus attention toward our security. It will listen to the first responders, it will find a better way to get the millions of dollars that have already been allocated and should have been already received by first responders, such as \$45 million in grants allocated to the State of California, but not received by their first responders. We need to help solve this problem.

It will be a focal point between Congress and the administration to coordinate the necessary resources to best defend our Nation. I look forward to continuing to work with the gentleman from California (Mr. COX) and other members of our committee to develop legislation and provide oversight that will aid the Department of Homeland Security in their mission to prepare, prevent, and respond to a terrorist attack to protect our constituents all over the country.

Mr. TURNER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 5 minutes to the gentleman from New Jersey (Mr. ANDREWS), a member of the Select Committee on Homeland Security.

(Mr. ANDREWS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

□ 1115

Mr. ANDREWS. Mr. Speaker, I thank my friend from Texas for yielding me this time. I would like to congratulate and thank the gentleman from California (Mr. COX) and the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TURNER) for their leadership in bringing the first of what I hope is a series of bipartisan bills to the floor that will improve our country's homeland security. There is much

work to be done. In each area that comprises homeland security, the work of this committee thus far has uncovered significant weaknesses and deficiencies that our country must resolve.

Homeland security first is the matter of knowing who is outside the fence of our home who is trying to do us harm, and that principally is a matter of diplomacy and intelligence. I frankly was dismayed to hear in recent weeks the testimony about the chaotic and dysfunctional relationship between the Department of Homeland Security and the various intelligence agencies. You cannot stop someone from attacking America if you do not know that they are trying to do it. This is an urgent problem that needs our attention.

The second aspect of homeland security is building the highest and strongest wall that we can build around our country. There is significant progress that has been made here. I especially commend the gentleman from Texas (Mr. THORNBERRY), chairman of the Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, and the gentlewoman from California (Ms. LOFGREN), who I think have very correctly focused on the risk to the country in the cybersecurity area.

But there are many more areas that need to be pursued. I would echo what the gentleman from California (Ms. LORETTA SANCHEZ) said a few minutes ago. The front line soldiers in making that wall as high and strong as possible are America's first responders, our police, our fire, our emergency services personnel. Later today, the House will consider a homeland security appropriations bill that does more for those first responders than has ever been done before in the history of the Federal Government. It is not nearly enough. It is not happening nearly soon enough. I know there will be some discussion under the appropriations bill about the wisdom of trading off over \$2 trillion worth of tax cuts for more urgent and necessary help for these first responders. I think we should have chosen to help the first responders, and I think that is an area of debate that should be explored as the committee goes forward.

The third area of homeland security is the question of chain of command and allocation of responsibility when we have a terrorist attack that is imminent or ongoing. There is chaos and dysfunction in this area as well. Because everyone is in charge of an ongoing attack, no one is in charge of defending against an ongoing attack. The Select Committee on Homeland Security, working together with the Committee on Armed Services and other relevant committees, needs to think about who would be in charge in America this morning if, God forbid, our President received word that a terrorist attack was happening right now, who reports to whom, who is in charge of whom, and who is responsible for what. This is an area that is unexplored and dysfunctional at the present time.

Finally, homeland security is a matter of response. It is a matter of the immediate aftermath of an attack. One of the most impressive things about September 11 was how the first responders and other responders reacted to the tragedies in New York and in Virginia and Pennsylvania, because in many ways they were making it up as they went along. They did not have the contingency plans, they did not have the equipment, they did not have the training. They did a heroic and spectacular job. One of the least impressive things about our country's preparations in homeland security is how still relatively unprepared we are for that immediate aftermath. Questions about taxing the public health system, questions about evacuation plans, questions of coordination and joint services agreements among municipalities, counties and States still need to be worked out.

This is a bipartisan mission of national urgency. I am encouraged that the committee has worked together on this technical corrections bill. I fully support it. But if this is all we do and if this is as far as we go, then the deficiencies that I pointed out this morning will come back to haunt us. That benefits no one; that jeopardizes everyone. I hope that we will work together in the months and years to come to strengthen ourselves so we never again live another nightmare like this country did on the 11th of September, 2001.

Mr. TURNER of Texas. Mr. Speaker, I yield 3 minutes to the gentleman from Washington (Mr. DICKS).

Mr. DICKS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from Texas for yielding me this time. I want to commend the chairman and Mr. TURNER for the work that has gone on on this particular legislation; and I want to rise, too, to raise my concerns about this whole homeland security effort. I have had several meetings with Tim Lowenberg, the head of the National Guard in Washington State and Governor Locke's coordinator for homeland security. We have discussed on two or three occasions our mutual concerns about the resources getting back to those first responders in the State of Washington. In fact, I have contacted my fire department and police department in Tacoma and in Bremerton, the two biggest cities in my district. I have convened a meeting of the officials, and very little of the money that Congress has authorized and appropriated has actually gotten back to those first responders. I think this is something we have got to get straightened out. The Congress has to get this straightened out. I also have been out to Northern Command. I regret that I could not be with the chairman on their recent trip twice now to talk to General Eberhart about the role that the military of the United States is going to play.

As strange as it may seem, for many, many years we did not have a CINC that was in charge of protecting the

United States. We took it for granted that somehow we were secure from an attack. That is one thing that 9-11 certainly did change. We now recognize the vulnerability of our country and the vulnerability of our infrastructure. I agree with the comments that I have heard here this morning. We need to continue to do more. We have got to get the private sector to protect its critical assets. We have got to work with them to make certain that they are doing it. The chemical industries, our nuclear reactors, our energy plants, the transmission lines for our power grids and facilities, all of these things have to have a plan for protection. The States have to have, I believe, an individual plan for their protection. So there is a lot of work that has to be done. I want to make the same plea.

I worked with the gentleman from California (Mr. COX) on a select committee on transfer of technology to China. I have great confidence in his leadership and in his willingness to take on a tough issue. But we have to have the courage in this body, this institution, to tell the administration when they are doing a good job, but also tell them when they are not doing enough. I worry that when you have the Council on Foreign Relations and the Brookings Institution taking independent looks at what has happened in the last 2 years since 9-11 and the conclusion is that not much has really changed, then we in this body have a responsibility to make certain that the job, in fact, is getting done. Let us continue to work on a bipartisan basis, but let us make sure the job is getting done.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Texas (Mr. THORNBERRY), the chairman of the select committee's Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Science, and Research and Development.

Mr. THORNBERRY. Mr. Speaker, I appreciate the chairman yielding me this time, and I rise in support of this technical corrections bill. I also want to acknowledge that there is a lot of work left to be done. We will not make our country as secure as it needs to be in just a few short weeks, months or possibly even years. It is tempting for us in the Congress to think that if we can just pass a bill or we can spend more money, then we will have solved the problem. That is probably not true with most problems. It is particularly not true here. In fact, I have said that if we spend the whole Federal budget on something called homeland security, we will still not have eliminated the terrorist threat to the United States.

Instead, we have to do it the harder way. We have to really understand the problems, we have to set priorities, and we have to have the sense of urgency that is required coupled with a thoughtfulness that indicates that we are really doing the right thing. There is a tension there that I think a lot of us on both sides of the aisle feel.

In our Subcommittee on Cybersecurity, Science, and Research and Development, we are focusing partly on technologies, so that we can identify technologies that have been developed and encourage them to be fielded quickly so that we can be safer quickly. And then in addition, we can research those areas where technologies have not yet been developed where there is a need. We will focus on the cyber threat. We are having a hearing, for example, this week to try to understand the nature of the threat, also our vulnerabilities and the appropriate role of the Federal Government. We are interested in the information technology of the Department itself, because whether we are focused on the borders or in many other aspects of guarding our homeland, having good information technology, where the databases communicate with each other, that are user friendly but also secure is a key part of the challenge that faces this Department.

Mr. Speaker, to be successful there has to be partnerships involved, partnerships across the aisle, partnerships with the administration, partnerships with the private sector. I look forward to working with all my colleagues to develop those partnerships and to be successful.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Arizona (Mr. SHADEGG), the chairman of the Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness and Response.

Mr. SHADEGG. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman for yielding me this time. I rise in strong support of H.R. 1416, the Homeland Security Technical Corrections Act. Today's bill represents our committee's first adjustment of the Homeland Security Act. As we have been examining some of the issues pertinent to homeland security, it will be necessary to make other changes to the act in order to provide clearer counsel to the Department as it undertakes its massive new responsibilities. For example, on my Subcommittee on Emergency Preparedness and Response, we have discovered that while the Department's main mission is to prevent terrorist attacks against the United States, the law fails to rest the specific responsibility for preventing such attacks with any one of the four directorates; and therefore it is unclear which of those directorates is in charge of this most critical mission. Other examples of how and where fine tuning of the statute is needed will arise as we do our work, and we will act to improve the law.

Mr. Speaker, the Department of Homeland Security became a reality just in March. It represents the largest reorganization of the Federal Government since World War II. This is truly a herculean task, but the Department has taken some important steps to assist our Nation's readiness for emergencies. \$566 million has been made available to the States and the cities from the fiscal year 2003 budget to as-

sist first responders in the form of funding for equipment, training, planning and exercises. \$750 million has been made available for firefighter assistance grants from the fiscal year 2003 budget to help rural, urban and suburban fire departments better train, prepare and equip themselves. On April 30, \$1.5 billion was made available to States and localities from the fiscal year 2003 supplemental budget to help State and local law enforcement personnel pay for equipment, training and exercises and to offset the costs associated with enhanced security measures deployed during heightened periods of threat. On May 14, \$700 million was allocated from the fiscal year 2003 supplemental budget as part of the urban area security initiative for 30 cities and their contiguous counties and mutual aid partners to enhance the security of urban areas with high-density populations.

I rise in strong support of this legislation. I thank the chairman for bringing it forward. I look forward to working to make our Nation more secure.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Nevada (Mr. GIBBONS), the chairman of the Subcommittee on Intelligence and Counterterrorism.

(Mr. GIBBONS asked and was given permission to revise and extend his remarks.)

Mr. GIBBONS. Mr. Speaker, I thank the gentleman from California for yielding me this time. I rise in support of H.R. 1416, the technical corrections bill for the Homeland Security Act. Mr. Speaker, following the events of September 11, 2001, our Nation began the most significant reorganization of the Federal Government since 1947, all in an effort to better protect America from terrorist attacks. The Department of Homeland Security was founded in an effort to create a centralized authority capable of streamlining and harmonizing our country's domestic security.

One of the clearest lessons learned from the tragic events of September 11 was the need for our intelligence and security agencies to share information and unify their efforts to the most feasible extent possible. Tasked with meeting this challenge is the Department of Homeland Security's directorate of information analysis and infrastructure protection, commonly known as the IAIP. H.R. 1416 will help the directorate achieve the goal of information-sharing.

The Homeland Security Act established the IAIP as a critical component in providing comprehensive threat analysis and management capacity to our Nation and will serve as the primary focal point for intelligence-sharing and analysis related to domestic security.

IAIP will provide vertical as well as the horizontal information flow that

will allow our security forces, including our local community first responders, to respond as quickly and effectively as possible in executing their mission. As the Department of Homeland Security moves forward in accomplishing its mandate to make America safer, the Director of Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection will have to play an integral role in assuring our intelligence agencies share information with each other as well as with the State and local law enforcement agencies and first responders.

I would like to thank Secretary Ridge and his department staff for their assistance and cooperation with our efforts in Congress to assure the Department of Homeland Security accomplishes this dual task of protecting against future terrorist attacks and preparing our Nation for our Nation's emergency response should an attack unfortunately occur. As Secretary Ridge and the Department of Homeland Security continue their work in this uncharted area, I look forward to a continued successful and productive relationship and urge support for H.R. 1416.

Mr. COX. Mr. Speaker, I yield 2 minutes to the gentleman from Florida (Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART), the vice chairman of the Subcommittee on Legislative and Budget Process under the Committee on Rules.

Mr. LINCOLN DIAZ-BALART of Florida. Mr. Speaker, the Homeland Security Act of 2002 represented a monumental undertaking to reorganize multiple Federal agencies with various jurisdictions. This legislation, as amended by the Select Committee on Homeland Security, is an important step in the committee's oversight of the newly created department. Among other things, the technical corrections in H.R. 1416 further clarify the powers and duties of the Secretary of Homeland Security and the Attorney General.

Further, the gentleman from California's (Chairman COX) mark addressed concerns raised about the original bill's language that would have potentially placed jurisdiction of the Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services under the Under Secretary of Border and Transportation. These corrections provide guidance and more accountability by creating a clearer chain of command.

By abolishing the INS and reorganizing its functions, the Homeland Security Act I think made tremendous strides toward achieving a delicate balance between protecting our country from those who might do it harm and those properly seeking admission into the United States.

I look forward to continuing to work through the select committee under the leadership of the gentleman from California (Chairman COX) and also with the gentleman from Texas (Mr. TURNER) and all of our colleagues to