



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Statement of Chairman Bennie G. Thompson

H.R. 2200: “Transportation Security Administration Authorization Act”

May 14, 2009 (Washington) – Today, Committee on Homeland Security Chairman Bennie G. Thompson (D-MS) delivered the following prepared remarks for the full Committee markup for H.R. 2200, “Transportation Security Administration Authorization Act”:

“Today, we are considering H.R. 2200, the “Transportation Security Administration Authorization Act.”

This bill is the first authorization bill that the Committee has produced for the Department of Homeland Security this year.

It is also the first authorization bill produced for TSA since it was established in 2001.

It is the product of months of extensive bipartisan discussions and reflects input from Members, GAO, the Inspector General, and transportation stakeholders from across the spectrum.

This comprehensive security bill not only helps to guide the efforts of the men and women who work to secure our skies, rail lines, and roads everyday but also does a great deal to protect the people that rely on these transportation systems.

For these reasons, I am pleased to report that H.R. 2200, as amended, was approved unanimously in Subcommittee last week.

I want to thank the Chairwoman and Ranking Member of the Transportation Security and Infrastructure Protection Subcommittee—Ms. Jackson-Lee and Mr. Dent—for working in a bipartisan way to produce solid security legislation that has so much support.

I look forward to seeing that same spirit of bipartisanship in action today. Recognizing that we have a lot to get to in a short amount of time today, I will conclude my remarks.”

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