



News from the office of

Congresswoman Deborah Pryce

House Republican Conference Chairwoman

Serving Ohio's 15th District

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Pryce Hails Passage of Measure to Protect Ohioans

Washington, DC – Congresswoman Deborah Pryce (R-Upper Arlington) today praised Congress' continued efforts to keep central Ohio safe by passing legislation to fund operations and activities of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security for Fiscal Year 2006. The bill passed by an overwhelming bipartisan vote of 424-1.

"The steps we took today to fund our nation's security infrastructure will go a long way to putting Americans' tax dollars to work where they are needed most," said Pryce. "From first responders to cargo inspection, this funding will directly support our most important security-related programs and the individuals who put their lives on the line each and every day to keep communities in central Ohio and across the country safe."

The Homeland Security Appropriations bill provides over \$30 billion for operations and activities of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) in FY 2006. The legislation compliments a measure passed by the House last week to prioritize assistance for agencies and municipalities of greatest risk and create a more streamlined process for preparedness grants.

Among the highlight of the Homeland Security Appropriations bill:

Protecting Our Nation's Borders and Revitalizing Immigration Enforcement

- Supports next generation technology to screen high-risk cargo coming through our land and seaports
- Expands cargo inspection at foreign ports
- Makes improvements to supply chain security and maritime security
- Supports a robust revitalization of immigration enforcement efforts both along our borders and within the interior of the nation

Supporting State and Local First Responders

- The plan recognizes that no community is immune from terrorism and achieves a balance between basic formula grants, used by states and localities to achieve a minimum level of preparedness, and funds for high-risk urban areas

Enhancing Transportation Security

- Continues efforts to enhance security for all modes of transportation, including ports, rails, and aviation
- Focuses on research and development of next generation technologies to inspect baggage, passengers, and cargo

Using Science and Technology to Protect Our Nation

- Provides for research, development, and deployment of innovative technologies including those proposed by universities, national laboratories, not-for-profit organizations, and private companies
- Funds will be used to test technologies, determine their applicability to homeland security requirements, and transition these technologies for use by federal, state, and local officials

Protection the Nation's Critical Infrastructure

- Enhances the Information Analysis and Infrastructure Protection (IAIP) Directorate's ongoing work to protect our critical infrastructure and key assets
- Supports ongoing efforts to enhance the current inventory of our nation's critical infrastructures, develop secure communications systems with federal, state, and local entities, and continues efforts to work the private sector to implement protective measures around this infrastructure

Supporting Traditional Missions

- Supports traditional missions such as immigration services, disaster mitigation and relief, drug interdiction, law enforcement, maritime safety and security, and trade

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