



# COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

*Ranking Member Bennie G. Thompson*

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

## **Markup Statement of Counterterrorism & Intelligence Subcommittee Ranking Member Seth Magaziner (D-RI)**

### ***Subcommittee on Counterterrorism and Intelligence Markup***

**May 14, 2026**

Today the subcommittee is considering seven bills that seek to improve DHS's information sharing and terrorism prevention efforts. On the Democratic side, we are considering:

- The "SAFE VISITS Act," introduced by Congressman Dan Goldman of New York, which would help defend against the targeting of state, local, tribal and territorial governments by foreign state governments seeking to obtain national security information.
- The "Modernizing and Improving the National Terrorism Advisory System Act of 2026," introduced by Congresswoman Nellie Pou of New Jersey, directs DHS to develop a strategy to modernize the National Terrorism Advisory System or NTAS (IN-TAS) to ensure critical information about potential terrorist threats are communicated to the public in a timely and effective manner.
- I am pleased to have re-introduced: The "Department of Homeland Security Intelligence and Analysis Training Act." My bill requires a standardized, entry-level basic training curriculum, including on civil rights and civil liberties, for all DHS Office of Intelligence and Analysis (I&A) employees. It is a commonsense bill, and I thank Chairman Pfluger for his support of the bill.

I am also pleased to be the lead Democratic cosponsor of Chairman Pfluger's "I&A Mission Reorientation Act of 2026." We've heard for years now that the requirements of I&A's two customer sets need to be equally prioritized and Mr. Pfluger's bill works to address that.

Mr. Chairman, I appreciate you and your staff's collaboration on these bills and for working with us in good faith. However - as you know - there are broader dynamics surrounding DHS.

The Trump administration's mass deportation agenda continues to target children, the sick, the elderly, and people just trying to make a living, rather than focusing on dangerous criminals. There still has not been full accountability for the chaos unleashed by the administration in Minneapolis and elsewhere in the country that led to the killing of American citizens. Now, another \$70 billion slush fund has been proposed for ICE and CBP for an additional 3 years, and our Committee may be totally bypassed—no hearings, no markups, no reforms.

The appointment of Seb Gorka, a hyper partisan conspiracy theorist who could not even get a security clearance, to be acting director of the National Counterterrorism Center, creates a real risk that the critical counterterrorism work of DHS will be politicized. In this context it is very difficult to come together on a bipartisan basis to work on legislation pertaining to DHS, but Democrats on this subcommittee nonetheless remain committed to doing what we can to make Americans safer by engaging in the work of this subcommittee.

We are here today because we believe this bipartisan package of bills will make us safer, and we are prepared to work across the aisle to advance them even as we continue to advocate for an end to the chaos and cruelty of the administration's broader agenda. I thank Chairman Pfluger for his partnership on these bills.

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