

News from Congressman David Price (NC-04)

Chairman, House Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security Thursday, February 26, 2009 Contact: Phil Feagan, 202-225-1784

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

STATEMENT BY REP. DAVID PRICE On the President's Preliminary Budget Proposal for Homeland Security

WASHINGTON – Congressman David Price (D-NC), chairman of the Homeland Security Appropriations Subcommittee, issued the following statement today in response to President Obama's Fiscal Year 2010 preliminary budget proposal for the Department of Homeland Security:

"President Obama's spending proposal signals a commitment to meeting our nation's most essential security priorities. This proposal would mean a 6.75% boost over fiscal year 2009 levels, a solid increase in our current budgetary environment for the United States' homeland security needs. I am particularly pleased that the new Administration recognizes the value of some of the priorities and goals that our Subcommittee has sought to establish for the Department of Homeland Security.

"Over the past two years, we have made clear to Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE) that it needs to prioritize the identification and removal of dangerous criminal aliens who have readily demonstrated their willingness to do our communities harm. It is gratifying to see President Obama and Secretary Napolitano build upon this effort with a healthy request. I am also encouraged by the President's new initiative to crack down on the smuggling of guns and money into Mexico, which is fueling the drug trade and the horrific violence taking place just across our border.

"The Administration is also right to place a high priority on cybersecurity. Better protection for network infrastructure for the public and private sectors has major implications for both our security and the economy. And finally, this proposal signals that our state and local first responders can count on a reliable federal partner to support their efforts to protect our communities.

"On these initiatives and all of the other important work of the Department of Homeland Security, I look forward to working with President Obama and Secretary Napolitano to protect the American people from the threats our country faces."

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