



House Select Committee on Homeland Security **Democrats**

JIM TURNER, Ranking Member

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Contact: Moira Whelan

(202) 226-8827

TURNER PRAISES PASSAGE OF FIRST RESPONDER GRANT REFORM

Following passage of H.R. 10, the “9/11 Commission Implementation Act,” by the House of Representatives, Representative Jim Turner, Ranking Member of the Select Committee on Homeland Security, stated:

“I am pleased that H.R. 10 includes the Faster and Smarter Funding for First Responders Act, legislation that resulted from over a year of work in the Select Committee on Homeland Security. This compromise legislation merges together the best ideas and concepts of two bills: the PREPARE Act (H.R. 3158), introduced by House Democrats in September of 2003, and the original version of H.R. 3266, introduced by Representative Christopher Cox.”

“This legislation will significantly improve the grants system by allocating funds based on risk and vulnerability, rather than the arbitrary formulas of current law. This approach was recommended by the 9/11 Commission.

“The bi-partisan cooperation that led to this historic legislation represents the way this House should work to achieve strong results for the American people.”

The Faster and Smarter Funding for First Responders Act will restructure the first responder grant system. It will establish a Task Force to determine essential capabilities for first responders, and will distribute funds to build these capabilities based on threat and vulnerability assessments by the Department of Homeland Security.

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