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COMMITTEE ON ARMED SERVICES

U.S. House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-6035

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March 6, 2006

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JOIN CHAIRMAN HUNTER AND REP. SAXTON IN BECOMING AN ORIGINAL COSPONSOR OF THE NATIONAL DEFENSE CRITICAL INFRASTRUCTURE PROTECTION ACT OF 2006

Dear HASC Colleague:

Tomorrow, we will introduce legislation that will enhance our national security by protecting the key components of national defense critical infrastructure. It is clear to us that the current interagency Committee on Foreign Investment in the United States (CFIUS) review process does not adequately provide the necessary security safeguards and that economic or commercial implications apparently supersede national security considerations. Our national security must always be our number one priority.

Therefore, the legislation that we will introduce includes the following provisions:

- 1) Require any corporation that owns, manages, or operates national defense critical infrastructure to be majority-owned by American citizens;
- 2) Require that the Secretary of Defense, in consultation with the Secretary of Homeland Security, prepare and maintain a national defense critical infrastructure list;
- 3) Define "critical infrastructure" as any system or asset physical or virtual that is so vital to the United States that the incapacity or destruction of such system or asset would have a debilitating effect on national security, economic security, or public health and safety;
- 4) Require the mandatory inspection of all cargo coming into the United States by an appropriate officer or employee of the Directorate of Border and Transportation Security or other appropriate entity;
- 5) Halt the takeover bid by Dubai Ports World to manage U.S. ports;
- 6) Reform the CFIUS process by clearly mandating a 45 day investigation ("Byrd Amendment") into transactions that may have national security implications;

- 7) Add several factors such as the impact on domestic production needed for homeland security to be considered during the CFIUS process; and finally,
- 8) Require the President to provide for regulations that mandate written notification to the Administration of mergers, acquisitions, or takeovers that may be subject to CFIUS review or investigation and for such notifications to appear in the Federal Register.

We believe that this legislation will close the gaps in the current process and ensure that the management of key critical infrastructure will remain under United States control.

We hope you will join us in co-sponsoring this legislation. Please contact Roger Zakheim (x64444) or Stephanie Sanok of the HASC staff (x68971) or Vicki Middleton with Representative Hunter (55672) by noon Tuesday, March 7, 2006 to let us know of your interest in being an original co-sponsor of the measure.

With personal regards,

an Flunter Sim Saxton

Chairman, Subcommittee on Terrorism, Unconventional

Threats and Capabilities