

Eshoo Chairs Hearing on the Director of National Intelligence's 500-Day Plan

December 6, 2007

Eshoo Chairs Hearing on the Director of National Intelligence's 500-Day Plan

December 6, 2007

WASHINGTON, D.C. - The Intelligence Community Management Subcommittee of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence (HPSCI), chaired by Anna Eshoo (D-California 14th) today received testimony on the Director of National Intelligence's 500-Day plan.

"Director McConnell established a plan for making progress on intelligence reform. While I'm pleased that the DNI is pursuing a good set of priorities, progress towards achieving them has been mixed. Most of the initiatives in the 500-day plan are simply that, plans - we want to see results." Eshoo said.

In 2004 Congress passed legislation that created a Director of National Intelligence (DNI) to lead this operational and cultural integration. Shortly after he was confirmed as DNI, Director Mike McConnell published a 100-Day Plan "to demonstrate progress and build momentum for integration and transformation across the Community."

In today's hearing, Eshoo's subcommittee examined the accomplishments under that plan as well as progress to date towards the goals of the DNI's follow-on "500-Day Plan."

The Subcommittee heard testimony first from Dr. Don Kerr, the Principal Deputy DNI, and Mr. David Shedd, the Deputy DNI for Policy, Plans, and Requirements, who spoke on the DNI's progress on the 500-day plan.

The Subcommittee then heard testimony from outside experts on the DNI's progress in achieving the goals established by the Intelligence Reform and Terrorism Prevention Act of 2004. These witnesses included: former Indiana congressman Tim Roemer, who served on the 9/11 Commission; Ambassador Robert Hutchings, diplomat-in-residence at the Woodrow Wilson School of Public and International Affairs at Princeton and former Chair of the National Intelligence Council; Ms. Suzanne Spaulding, former HPSCI minority staff director, the Senate Select Committee on Intelligence's deputy staff director and general counsel, and member of various commissions that have studied the intelligence community; and Mr. Samuel Visner, the Deputy Chairman of the Armed Forces Communications and Electronics Association's (AFCEA) Intelligence Committee.

"Providing careful oversight of these issues is critical," observed Eshoo. "That is why members of the Subcommittee are committed to working together to track progress and support the efforts of the Intelligence Community to transform its way of doing business."

###