



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – May 11, 2007

Contact: Dave Yonkman
(202) 225-4401

Hoekstra Votes against Intelligence Authorization Bill

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Pete Hoekstra, R-Mich., the top Republican on the House Intelligence Committee, today voted against the fiscal year 2008 Intelligence Authorization bill after Republican efforts to strengthen overall intelligence capabilities and remove “politically correct” items were blocked.

“This bill is a throwback to the 90s when intelligence operations were cut and intelligence resources were diverted to non-national security issues such as the environment,” Hoekstra said. “The committee has not had one hearing, one briefing, one meeting or even a conversation in which global climate change was raised as an issue.

“With rogue nations pursuing nuclear weapons, conflict in Afghanistan and Iraq and the recent arrest of radical jihadists planning to attack U.S. bases in the Northeast, the intelligence community has more than enough national security challenges without this committee forcing global climate change on it as an issue.”

In addition to politically correct mandates on global climate change, H.R. 2082, the Intelligence Authorization Act for fiscal year 2008, cuts classified human intelligence programs counter to 9/11 Commission recommendations and makes significant cuts to certain, classified initiatives in America’s efforts to counter radical jihadists. The bill also fails to modernize the Foreign Intelligence Surveillance Act, which is outdated and threatens the nation’s ability to detect and prevent terrorist attacks.

Despite a recommendation from the director of national intelligence to shutter the National Drug Intelligence Center, the bill contains a nearly \$40 million earmark to keep open the facility once described by *U.S. News & World Report* as “rocked by scandal” and whose first deputy director acknowledged was in “search for a mission.” Democrats also rejected Republican attempts to shine light on the facility by having the Justice Department Inspector General audit NDIC for waste despite a finding that NDIC is “an expensive and duplicative use of scarce Federal drug enforcement resources” by the House Committee on Government Reform and Oversight.

“It’s not enough to spend more on intelligence, you have to spend it on the right things,” Hoekstra said. “This bill does not focus on the right capabilities or priorities.”

Like the intelligence authorization bill approved by the House last year, this bill now heads to the Senate for consideration.