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Hoekstra Statement on Terrorist Threat NIE

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Pete Hoekstra, R-Mich., the top Republican on the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, issued the following statement on the National Intelligence Estimate on “The Terrorist Threat to U.S. Homeland:”

“The NIE provides an urgent public reminder that our nation faces a persistent and ongoing threat from al-Qaeda and other radical jihadist groups. Their use of the Internet and modern communications has only hastened the scope and speed of the threat and increased the chances of jihadist radicalization inside our borders.

“Our counterterrorism efforts have been effective in constraining al-Qaeda’s capabilities, but their intention and efforts to carry out spectacular attacks in America have not stopped. The NIE underscores why we cannot grow complacent or relax our vigilance against the radical jihadist threat.

“Given the heightened terrorist threat faced by our nation, and the key judgments contained in this NIE, Congress should take steps to strengthen America’s ability to deter, detect and disrupt radical jihadist plots by closing the terrorist loophole in FISA.

“We’ve been warned time and again. The question now is, ‘will Congress act on the warnings before the August recess?’”