



FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE – May 8, 2006

Contact: Jamal D. Ware  
(202) 225-4121

## **House Intelligence Chairman Statement on Nomination of New CIA Director**

WASHINGTON, D.C. – U.S. Rep. Pete Hoekstra, R-Mich., Chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence, issued the following statement after President George W. Bush nominated Gen. Michael Hayden as CIA director:

“The CIA is the nation’s premier, all-source civilian intelligence agency and that is what it should remain. There is no question that General Hayden is an outstanding military officer and a strong leader with a proven history in the Intelligence Community leading to his current position in the Office of the Director of National Intelligence.

“At this time, however, our nation needs to maintain a balance between intelligence support to the military and long-term intelligence support to policymakers. By placing a military officer atop the CIA, we risk losing this balance, and we risk losing the critical, civilian intelligence analysis that policymakers need when making foreign policy decisions.

“As the Senate moves through this confirmation process, it is my sincere hope that the focus will remain on the CIA and the crucial effort begun by Director Goss to rebuild and strengthen our human intelligence capability. A robust debate on this issue is important, as is maintaining an independent, civilian intelligence force.”

<http://intelligence.house.gov>

-30-