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Reyes Comments on “Resolution of Inquiry” into DHS Report

WASHINGTON (May 7) – *Chairman of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence Silvestre Reyes of Texas today issued the following statement regarding the filing of a Republican “resolution of inquiry” into the Department of Homeland Security’s (DHS) intelligence assessment on the possible resurgence of right-wing extremist groups in the United States:*

“This is political gamesmanship, and I am disappointed that my colleagues are seeking to politicize intelligence issues once again.

“Clearly, this report indicates that adequate review procedures were not in place, or were not observed, before it was released. In particular, the poorly-crafted statements about the targeting of veterans for recruitment by right-wing extremist groups disturbed me greatly. At the same time, I was also greatly troubled by a recent DHS report on a potential increase in cyber-attacks by left-wing extremist organizations.

“I have expressed my views to Secretary Napolitano, and we are in agreement that there are legitimate issues within DHS that bear evaluation and oversight. Specifically, we discussed the steps needed to make sure that no report like this is ever generated or released again.

“Staff has been briefed on these reports, and the Committee will be working with DHS to tighten its analytical processes and improve the overall quality of reports. I also understand that DHS will be providing documents to the Congress later today that should answer any remaining reasonable questions. As always, I am dedicated to responsible oversight: asking questions, getting answers, and moving forward. The resolution of inquiry is not aimed at any of those things; it’s political and it’s irresponsible.”