



UNION OF ORTHODOX JEWISH CONGREGATIONS OF AMERICA

Institute for Public Affairs

Dr. Simcha Katz
President

May 14, 2012

Rabbi Steven Weil
Executive Vice President

Senator Mary Landrieu, Chair
Senator Daniel Coats, Ranking Member
& Members of the Senate Subcommittee on
Homeland Security Appropriations

Yehuda Neuberger
Chairman

Nathan J. Diament
Director

United States Senate
Washington, DC 20510
by electronic mail

Rabbi Tzvi H. Weinreb
Executive Vice President, Emeritus

Howard Friedman
Honorary Chairman

Dear Senators Landrieu, Coats and Members of the Subcommittee,

ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Susan Alter
Isaac Applbaum
Max Berlin Ben Chouake
Cynthia R. Darrison
Benham Dayanim
Allen Fagin
Martin Fineberg
Michael Fragin
Lorraine Hoffmann
David Luchins
Matthew Maryles
Steven Orlow
Benjamin Ringel
Steven H. Sholk
Jerry Wolasky
Dov Zakheim

I write on behalf of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America - the nation's largest Orthodox Jewish umbrella organization - representing nearly 1,000 synagogues as well as hundreds of other community institutions.

The Nonprofit Security Grant Program (NSGP) is a program of critical importance to our community and we are proud to have worked with the Congress to create it. We have grave concerns that the Dept. of Homeland Security's Nonprofit Security Grant Program is susceptible to "discretionary" decisions that will zero-out funding in FY2013. For the sake of our community's safety, NSGP needs the subcommittee's strong and specific support within its draft FY2013 bill.

Only 5 of 12 homeland security programs were funded in FY2012. Given how Congress restructured funding for DHS grant programs last year, our ability to secure any funding for NSGP in FY2012 was a challenge.

PAST CHAIRMEN

Mark Bane
Mandell Ganchrow
Richard B. Stone

Because Jewish communal institutions are among the highest threat of terrorist attack, please continue the Nonprofit Security Grant Program in your draft bill as a specific stand alone initiative and to fund it in FY2012 at no less than \$19 million (the FY2011 level).

The Institute for Public Affairs is the non-partisan public policy research and advocacy center of the Union of Orthodox Jewish Congregations of America, the nation's largest Orthodox Jewish umbrella organization founded in 1898.

Thank you for your attention and support.

Sincerely,

Nathan J. Diament

National Headquarters:
Eleven Broadway
New York, NY 10004
www.ou.org/public_affairs

