

Research and Development, Training, and Services:

Southeast Region Research Initiative (SERRI):

I request \$30,000,000 for the SERRI program. This important funding will help coordinate private and public efforts to anticipate, respond to and deter terrorist attacks. SERRI was developed as a pilot program targeting regional research, development, test and evaluation and technical assistance. The initial partners are Oak Ridge National Laboratory and the Mississippi Office of Homeland Security, and the initial pilot states are Mississippi, Tennessee, Kentucky, North Carolina, South Carolina and Alabama.

Transportation Security Administration:

Aviation Security-Explosive Detection:

I request that the following report language be included:

"...within the funds provided, not less than \$106,000,000 shall be available to procure and deploy certified EDS at medium- and small-sized airports. The purchase of the screening equipment for medium- and small-sized airports must be competitively awarded. Any award to deploy explosives detection systems must be based on risk, the airports current reliance on other screening solutions, lobby congestion resulting in increased security concerns, high injury rates, airport readiness, and increased cost effectiveness."

Federal Emergency Management Association:

Firefighter Assistance Grants:

I request increased funding for this important program. These grants are awarded to fire departments to enhance their ability to protect the public and fire service personnel from fire and related hazards.

Emergency Management Performance Grants (EMPG):

I request a minimum of \$487 million for the EMPG program. This program provides the only source of federal assistance to state and local governments for all-hazards emergency management capacity building. Additionally, I have signed a joint-letter to the Committee in support of this program.

United States Coast Guard:

National Security Cutter

I support continued funding for the National Security Cutter program for the Coast Guard. Since the Coast Guard has a requirement of at least 8 vessels, I request funding in FY2010 to ensure the continued, efficient production of this platform.