

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 9, 2012

The Honorable Janet Napolitano
Secretary of Homeland Security
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
245 Murray Lane SW
Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Secretary Napolitano:

We write to express our very strong concern about the significant funding reduction to the San Francisco Bay Area's FY2012 Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI) grant, and to seek your commitment in addressing this disproportionate reduction going forward.

We were troubled to learn that the Bay Area can be ranked by your Department at a *higher* "relative risk" level from 2011 to 2012, yet left to bear a nearly 40% funding reduction and *significantly less* preparedness funding when compared to other at-risk regions – some of which actually received more funding despite a lower risk score. This allocation methodology seems fundamentally inconsistent. Particularly when considering that the Bay Area is home to the nation's technology capital, significant infrastructure projects of regional and national importance, national laboratories, and one of the most internationally recognized symbols in the State of California and the United States, the iconic Golden Gate Bridge.

We understand that difficult budgetary decisions must be made in these challenging economic times. As we continue to champion efforts in Congress to provide funding for critical homeland security programs, we also ask that you seek to ensure that any FY2013 homeland security funds are allocated in a manner that provides for greater transparency and more consistently corresponds to an area's risk assessment.

Thank you for your full and fair consideration of this matter. Your service to our nation and assistance to the concerns of the San Francisco Bay Area are both greatly appreciated.

Sincerely,



MICHAEL M. HONDA
Member of Congress



ZOE LOFGREN
Member of Congress

Jo M. Ny

~~W.A.G.~~ Eshoo

Jacki Spina

Pete Stark

~~Ma Bennett~~

Barbara Lee

George Miller