

The Oversight Subcommittee of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence is pleased to welcome our guest and our distinguished witness for this open hearing on the implementation of the Intelligence Reform and Terrorist Prevention Act of 2004. By necessity, much of this committee's work cannot be done in public, but to the extent we can, without compromising our security, I think it is important to provide our colleagues and the public with an update on the biggest reorganization of our Intelligence Community in the last 50 years.

Our witness today is General Michael Hayden, Deputy Director of National Intelligence. All of us on this committee are quite familiar with General Hayden's talents and experience, and we appreciate the opportunity to work with him in this new capacity.

Of course, we are interested in hearing about the status of the specific requirements of the law. We are interested in how the developing relationships between the DNI's office and others in the Intelligence Community are improving our intelligence capabilities. We want to hear about the challenges that DNI and its office are facing, whether in law or in practice, but we are also here to assess whether the goals and objectives of that law are being achieved. Because mechanical compliance of the law doesn't really matter unless the changes we make actually improve our understanding, not just give us more information but improve our understanding of the ever-changing world we live in and the threats we face. And that, it seems to me, is the standard by which all of our mutual efforts ought to be judged.