

June 4, 2009

(WASHINGTON, D.C.) -- Today, U.S. Congressman Jason Altmire (PA-04) voted for legislation that will help keep Americans safe by strengthening programs aimed at preventing terrorist attacks. The Transportation Security Administration (TSA) Authorization Act (H.R. 2200) provides the TSA with increased funding so that it can improve security at airports and on ground transportation systems nationwide.

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“When the Transportation Security Administration was created in 2001, the agency’s main focus was improving security at our nation’s airports,” Altmire said. “However, attacks in recent years on London’s subway and Madrid’s commuter trains show that we must be vigilant with our ground transportation as well. This bill will help keep Americans safe by enhancing the security of ground transportation nationwide while also continuing to improve the safety of our airports.”

H.R. 2200 triples the funding for ground transportation security from the FY 2009 funding level. This will help TSA hire an additional 200 ground transportation security inspectors for FY 2010 and an additional 100 inspectors for FY 2011. The bill also requires TSA to establish a system that will ensure that all cargo on inbound foreign passenger flights is properly screened.

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