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Thompson Applauds DHS Decision to End SBI-net Program

January 14, 2011 (WASHINGTON) – Today, Rep. Bennie G. Thompson (D-MS), Ranking Member of the Committee on Homeland Security, released the following statement in regards to news from the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) that they are ending SBI-net as originally conceived and will instead implement a new border security technology plan:

“The SBI-net program has been a grave and expensive disappointment since its inception. Our Committee has held 11 hearings on the project, commissioned 5 critical GAO reports, all while the program cost taxpayers nearly \$1 billion for only 53 miles of coverage. I am glad that DHS and CBP are finally listening to what we have been saying for years – that the sheer size and variations of our borders show us a one-stop solution has never been best. I applaud them for taking this critical step toward using a more tailored technologically-based approach to securing our Nation’s borders.”

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