

## Castle Legislation Will Help Improve Safety of Delaware's Railways -- August 8, 2007

Wilmington, DE -- Delaware Congressman Mike Castle, joined by Chief of Patrol for Amtrak John Tewey and Major Joe Papili of the Delaware State Police, today discussed the importance of securing railways in Delaware and across the country. Rep. Castle's rail security legislation was successfully included in the 9/11 Commission Act and signed into law by the President on August 3rd. The 9/11 Commission Act enacts key homeland security recommendations of the 9/11 Commission and includes several provisions authored by Rep. Castle, including an amendment to require implementation of rail security techniques used in Europe and Asia.

"For years we have overlooked the fact that rail and transit systems continue to be the primary targets for terrorists in Europe and Asia. It is vital that we leverage the experience of our foreign partners in improving our ability to prevent and respond to such attacks. My legislation requires the government to model U.S. rail security after techniques that have proven effective in places like London and Hong Kong and it will be vital in enhancing security here at home. I have spent years pushing for this proposal, I am pleased that the President acted swiftly to sign this bill into law. However, while this is a clear sign of progress, it is evident that we must make certain these new requirements are implemented and funded accordingly," Castle said.

Rep. Castle's Rail Security provisions included the 9/11 Commission Act:

- Require the Department of Homeland Security to assess key foreign rail security practices that are not currently used in the U.S., including covert testing, random screening, and incorporating security into infrastructure design;
- Include provisions from Castle's legislation, H.R. 4106, the Railroad Security and Public Awareness Act, which will implement a mandatory rail security training program to prepare front-line employees for potential threat conditions; and
- Incorporate another provision from H.R. 4106 to require the Department of Homeland Security to conduct outreach campaigns for railroad security, including educational initiatives designed to inform the public on how to prevent, prepare for, respond to, and recover from a terrorist attack on railroad transportation.

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