Daily Brief

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House Subcommittee Clears Homeland Security Spending Bill

The House Appropriations Subcommittee on Homeland Security moved this morning to pass its 2007 funding measure. The bill is one of 11 appropriations measures passed annually by Congress to fund the operations of the U.S. Government.

The measure adopted today would provide \$32 billion in discretionary funding for the operations and programs of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security. The bill's funding level is \$1.8 billion more than was enacted in fiscal year 2006 and \$1.1 billion more than President Bush had sought in the budget he issued earlier this year. The bill reportedly includes \$150 million for transit security grants, which is the same amount that was appropriated by Congress last year. Approximately \$200 million is set aside in the bill for port security grants, which is half the amount outlined in the port security authorization bill (H.R. 4953) that was adopted by the House on May 4, 2006.

The full Appropriations Committee will mark up the spending bill on May 16.

Stomp Out the High Price Of Gas Event

Metro co-sponsored a media event with the national touring company of Stomp at the Pantages Theatre Thursday afternoon, encouraging people to STOMP out high gas prices by taking Metro, especially to the Pantages Theatre, which is just across the street from the Metro Red Line Hollywood/Vine station. Members of Stomp performed and Metro riders were offered \$30-per-ticket discounts, just for showing Metro passes or tickets. Various media attended today's event and stories are expected to air later today and tomorrow.

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