



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

Urban Areas across the nation have benefited tremendously over the years through targeted funding from the Urban Area Security Initiative (UASI). Urban Areas, like Las Vegas, rely on this critical program to provide first responders and public safety officials with the resources they need to prepare for and prevent catastrophic acts of terrorism.

Unfortunately, the Department of Homeland Security's (DHS) UASI formula for determining eligibility for funding allocations is fundamentally flawed.

Of the 100 Metropolitan Statistical Areas (MSAs) assessed annually for allocation consideration, far too few are receiving UASI funding. This concentration of funds toward an increasingly smaller subset of cities ranking highest in the Relative Risk Profile has been particularly impactful on the West, making the residents of and visitors to Urban Areas in this region of the country more vulnerable.

To combat this dangerous trend and restore the UASI program to its original intent, I have sent numerous letters to the Secretary of Homeland Security and key leaders in Congress to consider some recommendations to prevent future acts of terror in Las Vegas and other at-risk Urban Areas.

While a number of these topics are sensitive, it is important that the federal government use data and metrics that more accurately reflect the risks faced by cities like Las Vegas as it determines funding allocations.

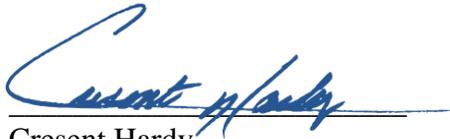
At a time when the United States is facing a growing threat of international and homegrown terror, we cannot afford to allow Western cities to sit as unprotected targets.

As I continue to engage my colleagues here in Congress, as well as Administration officials, I encourage you to stay engaged in this issue. Please be assured that I will continue to lead the fight to ensure that Las Vegas does not lose vital funding to combat terrorism.

For more information on UASI funding, please visit the DHS website at the following address: <https://www.fema.gov/fiscal-year-2016-homeland-security-grant-program>. You can also read this Las Vegas Review-Journal article about the issue:

<http://www.reviewjournal.com/politics/government/vegas-gets-3-million-boost-homeland-security-grant>.

Serving you,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Crescent Hardy", written over a horizontal line.

Crescent Hardy  
Member of Congress