

To Be Given Monday, July 18, 2005, 2:00P
Dirksen Senate Office Building, Room 562

The Testimony of
Kip Hawley

Nominee to be Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security (Transportation Security Administration), Department of Homeland Security

OPENING STATEMENT OF KIP HAWLEY BEFORE THE UNITED STATES SENATE COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY AND GOVERNMENTAL AFFAIRS

Chairman Collins, Senator Lieberman, and distinguished Members of the Committee, I am honored to appear before you today. I am grateful to President Bush for nominating me to serve as Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security for the Transportation Security Administration (TSA).

I believe the Committee is familiar with my professional background from my written submissions, visits with Members of this Committee, my staff interview, and recent testimony before the Commerce Committee. In view of the interest expressed by Members and staff of this Committee in the role and focus of TSA regarding its intermodal mission, I would like to highlight my background in that regard.

I have spent the last thirteen years engaged in the issues, operations, and technology of intermodal transportation. My focus has been on the optimization of intermodal transportation and supply chain networks.

In 1992, I had the honor of serving on the National Commission on Intermodal Transportation, having been appointed by President Bush. The Commission was created by Congress and was bi-partisan in nature, spirit, and result. I believe that same approach is appropriate as we work together to tackle the issue of securing the Nation's transportation network.

My day job was at Union Pacific (UP) Railroad where I had responsibility for Transportation Services which included the network center and intermodal operations. At UP, I subsequently served in a reengineering capacity that sought to improve the network performance based on customers' desire for seamless, reliable end-to-end transportation across all modes and to their partners in the supply chain.

For three years, starting in 1995, I served as CEO of Skyway, a leading supply chain services company, whose primary business was delivering solutions to high tech customers that combined information, technology, and transportation to achieve improved supply chain performance – across all modes of transportation.

Since 1998, I have continued to work on technology solutions to supply chain network problems, again with the perspective that overall network performance depends on the smooth integration of transportation systems in all modes.

It was from that business that I came, after September 11, 2001, to assist in the start-up of TSA.

Three years later, I have had the chance to take a fresh look at TSA. Secretary Chertoff has just released his vision for the Department in his Second Stage Review. I agree with that vision and, if confirmed, will seek to align TSA's priorities and resources to that vision. TSA has tremendous talent and I believe that by using a team approach and effective management systems, TSA can make continued progress in providing well-thought-out and efficiently implemented security for the U.S. transportation system.

The recent attacks in London, as well as the lessons learned from Madrid, demonstrate the critical nature of coordinated security planning and exceptional information sharing. These elements are the foundation on which TSA can accomplish its preparedness mission every day, as well as manage incidents as they arise.

I believe that my previous experience in government and in the private sector – mostly working on the nexus between transportation and technology – prepares me to understand and act on the input that would come from within and outside DHS/TSA. I intend to take a fully collaborative approach and will capitalize on the experience, expertise and knowledge of those who have come before me.

I believe that TSA, in addition to having a critical National mission, is a special place. It is made up of highly-skilled and highly-motivated people, every one of whom stepped up to serve the country in the aftermath of 9/11. Should the Senate confirm me, it would be an honor to join them in service to the Department and to the Nation.