



United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0504
<http://feinstein.senate.gov>

September 3, 2019

The Honorable Kevin McAleenan
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
3801 Nebraska Ave NW
Washington, DC 20016

Dear Acting Secretary McAleenan:

As Co-Chairman of the Senate Caucus on International Narcotics Control and Ranking Member of the Senate Judiciary Committee, I write to request information regarding the status of expanding the use of non-intrusive inspection (NII) technology on vehicles entering the United States along the Southern border and on automating data transfer capabilities to support image analysis from remote locations.

In response to questions for the record from the December 11, 2018 Senate Judiciary hearing, titled "Oversight of the U.S. Customs and Border Protection," you underscored the importance of NII technology in interdicting narcotics at the Southwest border. However, you also noted that only 1.5% of privately owned vehicles and 16% of commercial trucks were scanned at ports of entry and that CPB had only 118 large scale NII systems along the border in fiscal year 2018.

It is my understanding, from both your testimony and responses to questions for the record, that CBP is conducting an assessment on the use of NII technology for drive-through imaging. Based on the results of this assessment and availability of funds, I further understand that CBP is considering acquiring more NII technology systems as well as automating data transfer capabilities to support image analysis from remote locations.

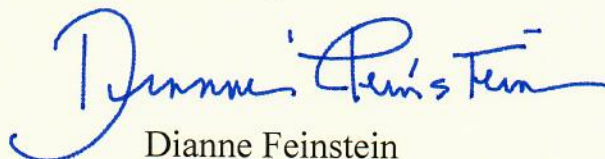
In light of the success of NII technology in supporting counter-narcotics efforts at the Southwest border – which after scanning only 1.5% and 16% of privately owned vehicles and commercial trucks, respectively, resulted in the

seizure of 206,000 pounds of illicit narcotics – I believe that the use of NII technology should be expanded. I further believe that image analysis from remote locations will remove opportunities for corruption and bribery at the border and should be strongly considered.

For these reasons, I ask that you provide an update on what your preliminary assessment of the NII technology systems, including the use of remote image analysis, has found. I also ask that you provide the estimated date of completion for the final analysis, as well as a copy of that analysis when it is available.

Thank you in advance for your prompt response to this request. I look forward to continuing to work together to reduce the flow of illicit narcotics into the United States.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Dianne Feinstein". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Dianne Feinstein
U.S. Senator