## Congress of the United States

## House of Representatives

Washington, DC 20515-0926

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## Dear Colleagues:

I write to formally express my intent to run for Chairman of the House Committee on Homeland Security in the 119th Congress.

When I came to Congress I did so with the mission to serve my constituents and defend the homeland we all cherish. The results of the 2024 election could not be clearer - the American people demanded a return to common sense, the rule of law, and a government that puts America First.

I believe my unique career, rooted in public safety, executive leadership, and crisis management, makes me the right person to lead this Committee at a time when our nation faces unprecedented threats both at home and abroad.

My service began on the frontlines, as a firefighter in the City of Miami, where I rose to become a SWAT-paramedic and the youngest Fire Chief in the city's history. I then served as City Manager of Miami and later as a Miami-Dade County Commissioner. For a decade, I was honored to serve as the Mayor and Sheriff of Miami-Dade County, overseeing PortMiami, Miami International Airport, and Emergency Management Operations for one of the most dynamic, diverse, and largest counties in the country.

These roles were not theoretical, they were boots-on-the-ground, real-world experiences that mirror the mission of this Committee: aviation and maritime security, border protection, emergency response, and law enforcement coordination.

As Representative for Florida's 28th District, the southernmost district in the continental United States, I have witnessed firsthand the devastating human, economic, and security consequences of the Biden-Harris open-border agenda. Every day, the vast maritime border of my district is tested. Thankfully, under President Donald J. Trump's renewed leadership, we are seeing long-overdue changes: border enforcement, "Remain in Mexico" reinstated, and wall construction is underway.

But make no mistake, the work is far from over.

As Chairman, I will lead a focused and relentless effort to close the gaps in our homeland defenses. That means confronting the alarming rise of unmanned aerial systems, hardening our infrastructure against cyberattacks from adversaries like China and Iran, and preparing for major global events - including the 2026 FIFA World Cup, America's 250th Anniversary, and the 2028 Los Angeles Olympics.

Since arriving in Congress, I have proudly served on the Homeland Security Committee and have spent the past two Congresses as Chairman of the Transportation and Maritime Security Subcommittee. I am hands-on, engaged, and bring the discipline, urgency, and commitment that this moment demands.

I would be honored to earn your support for Chairman of the House Committee on Homeland Security as we work together to protect our great nation.

Sincerely,

Carlos A. Gimenez Member of Congress