

CHRISTOPHER S. MURPHY

United States Senate
WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 30, 2025

The Honorable Kristi Noem
Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Madam Secretary:

This letter is in response to the April 30, 2025, notification submitted to the Committee by Mr. Jeffrey Bobich, the Director of Financial Management of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS), to transfer a total of \$312,500,000 from the fiscal year 2025 funding levels for U.S. Customs and Border Protection and the Cybersecurity and Infrastructure Security Agency (CISA) to U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE)—Operations and Support—Custody Operations.

I do not support the proposed transfers. Additionally, I remind the Department that Congress provided transfer and reprogramming authorities in acknowledgment of unforeseeable and compelling circumstances that may arise after Congress has provided funds for the current fiscal year. The Department should not abuse this authority for avoidable reasons as is the case with this proposed notification. Since the start of this Administration, the Department has knowingly and willfully spent above its means, putting ICE on a path to becoming anti-deficient or simply, spending more funding than you are authorized to spend. The Administration and this Department have continued to ignore funding limits set by Congress, overspending at levels that it cannot sustain and turning to other Departments, such as the Department of Defense to augment its funding.

Further, the Department has failed to provide my staff sufficient details on the impacts of transferring nearly \$144,000,000 away from CISA operations and procurements. Transfer and reprogramming notices should be accompanied by adequate justifications and the Department should seek to provide rapid and sufficient responses to questions. To that end, I reiterate my staff's request for information on the impacts of these reductions to CISA's capacity to mitigate threats to our national security through its cyber defense and critical infrastructure protection activities, including the impacts of proposed transfers of election security funding.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "C. Murphy", with a stylized, cursive script.

Christopher S. Murphy
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Homeland Security
Committee on Appropriations