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For Immediate Release

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Washington D.C.- Congressman John P. Murtha announced today that the House of Representatives has passed a conference report that provides comprehensive legislation enacting the recommendations of the bipartisan 9/11 Commission. The Commission made its recommendations to Congress three years ago, but the previous Congress failed to enact most of the recommendations into law.

The conference report makes key investments into:

- * Port Security: Requires that within five years 100% of all seaborne containers bound for the U.S. will be scanned before they leave foreign ports.

- * Aviation Security: Requires 100% screening of all cargo on passenger aircraft within three years. Authorizes an additional \$250 million annually for airport checkpoint screening and \$450 million annually for baggage screening.

- * First Responders: Improves the communications capability of first responders by establishing a communications interoperability grant program at the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and authorizes \$400 million a year for these new grants.

- * Rail and Mass Transit Security: Authorizes more than \$4 billion over the next five years for security grant programs to enhance the security of mass transit, buses, and freight and passenger rail.

"This legislation enacts long overdue reforms and investments in national security and intelligence sharing," said Murtha. "It also provides first responders and screeners with the technology they need to keep our roads, airports and seaports safe."

The conference report passed the House by a vote of 371-40. The Senate adopted the conference report last night and the report now heads to the President for his signature or veto.