

**STATEMENT OF  
THE HONORABLE JAMES L. OBERSTAR  
SUBCOMMITTEE ON ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, PUBLIC BUILDINGS, AND  
EMERGENCY MANAGEMENT  
HEARING ON “MAKING THE GSA LEASE AND CONSTRUCTION PROCESS EFFICIENT,  
TRANSPARENT, AND USER-FRIENDLY”  
JUNE 6, 2008**

The General Services Administration (GSA) serves an important role as the property manager for the federal government. Today’s hearing rightly chooses to focus on how GSA can find more efficiencies in managing the real estate portfolio of the federal government by streamlining the solicitation and Request for Proposal processes and creating savings for both the federal government and private sector.

This committee will continue its oversight of GSA this summer, as we plan to take a comprehensive look at the GSA Capital Investment and Leasing Program and how savings can be achieved in housing federal agencies like the Federal Bureau of Investigation, HUD, and the Social Security Administration, agencies that expected to have a long term presence in their communities

I would like to thank Commissioner David Winstead of GSA for joining us today to outline the real estate procurement process of the agency, as well as the private sector representatives for coming in today and giving us their perspective on working with GSA through the procurement process.