Varied homeland security definitions and missions may impede the development of a coherent national homeland security strategy, and may hamper the effectiveness of congressional oversight. Definitions and missions are part of strategy development. Policymakers develop strategy by identifying national interests, prioritizing goals to achieve those national interests, and arraying instruments of national power to achieve the national interests. Congress and policymakers are responsible for funding homeland security priorities.

Radiation portal monitors would not be installed at all of our sea ports by December 2004 as promised. And under the current budget, it may be years before these devices are available on the southern borders. This is unacceptable.