

*January 28, 2009*

**Mr. SCOTT of Virginia:** Madam Speaker, today I rise to introduce the Center to Advance, Monitor and Preserve University Security ("CAMPUS") Safety Act of 2009. The purpose of this legislation is to enable our institutions of higher education to easily obtain the best information available on how to keep our campuses safe and how to respond in the event of a campus emergency. The bill creates a National Center for Campus Public Safety ("Center"), which will be administered through Department of Justice. The Center is designed to train campus public safety agencies in state of the art practices to assure campus safety, encourage research to strengthen college safety and security, and serve as a clearinghouse for the dissemination of relevant campus public safety information. The Director of the Center will have authority to award grants to institutions of higher learning to help them meet their enhanced public safety goals.

Over the past few years we have seen numerous tragedies occur at colleges and universities, including the disastrous events that occurred at Virginia Tech and Northern Illinois University. Unfortunately, because these events were the first of their kind for the schools, the Administrators were not fully knowledgeable on the best practices to prevent the tragedies and how to respond in the aftermath. We therefore must assist our institutions of higher learning to keep campuses safe.

The CAMPUS Safety Act will help institutions of higher learning understand how to prevent such tragedies from occurring, and how to respond in case they do.

I urge my colleagues to cosponsor and support this important legislation to ensure that the institutions of higher education have access to information on how to keep their schools safe.