Statement of Senator John Cornyn

Senate Judiciary Committee Hearing Entitled: "Drones in America: Law Enforcement and Privacy Considerations"

Technological innovation has driven incredible economic growth in the United States, and has improved nearly every aspect of our lives. But new technologies, especially when used inappropriately, can raise serious privacy concerns. The use of unmanned aerial surveillance systems in the United States brings these issues to the forefront, and I am glad we are holding this hearing to learn more about them.

In Texas, the United States Border Patrol has used unmanned aerial surveillance systems to help apprehend thousands of illegal immigrants and criminals on the Southern Border. Congress must ensure that these unmanned aerial surveillance systems are only used for legitimate national security and law enforcement purposes, and never used to harass, intimidate, or infringe upon the rights of United States citizens.