Washington, DC (May 8, 2012) – Rep. Gus Bilirakis (R-Palm Harbor), a member of the House Homeland Security Committee, released the following statement in response to the CIA disrupting a plot to attack a commercial airliner using sophisticated explosive underwear similar to a device that failed to detonate aboard a plane over Detroit in 2009:

"I applaud the efforts of the intelligence and counter terrorism community, the CIA, the FBI and the Department of Homeland Security for thwarting this potential disaster," Bilirakis said. "This is a reminder that there are people in this world who will stop at nothing to harm us and disrupt our way of life. We must remain vigilant in our national security and defense efforts to combat more sophisticated attacks."