

**Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, H. R. 2789, With an
Amendment**

**(The amendment strikes all after the enacting clause and inserts a
complete new text)**

118TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 2789

To direct the Secretary of State to develop a strategy on efforts to strengthen subnational cooperation between the United States and Mexico, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 20, 2023

Mr. STANTON introduced the following bill; which was referred to the
Committee on Foreign Affairs

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of State to develop a strategy on efforts to strengthen subnational cooperation between the United States and Mexico, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “American Cooperation
5 with Our Neighbors Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. SUBNATIONAL COOPERATION STRATEGY.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 270 days after the
3 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of State,
4 in coordination with the Administrator of the United
5 States Agency for International Development, shall submit
6 to the Committee on Foreign Affairs of the House of Rep-
7 resentatives and the Committee on Foreign Relations of
8 the Senate a strategy on efforts to strengthen subnational
9 cooperation between the United States and Mexico for the
10 purposes of—

11 (1) enhancing law enforcement cooperation and
12 local, State, and Federal security forces cooperation
13 at a subnational level for the purpose of curbing
14 fentanyl trafficking and other synthetic opioids, in-
15 cluding activities such as—

16 (A) bolstering technical assistance and co-
17 ordination for law enforcement agencies and
18 local, State, and Federal security forces;

19 (B) carrying out exchange programs for
20 the purposes of professional development; and

21 (C) enhancing data sharing, as appro-
22 priate;

23 (2) bolstering subnational dialogue and capacity
24 building between Federal and local governments,
25 civil society, faith-based organizations, and business
26 community leaders and integrating issues faced by

1 local communities, including with respect to traf-
2 ficking of fentanyl and other synthetic opioids; and
3 (3) strengthening capacity building and provide
4 resources for border towns and organizations within
5 those towns that attempt to meet the needs of com-
6 munities.

7 (b) UPDATE.—Not later than 2 years after the date
8 of the submission of the strategy under subsection (a), the
9 President shall submit to the congressional committees
10 specified in subsection (a) an update containing an assess-
11 ment of the implementation and effectiveness of the strat-
12 egy, lessons learned from the past year with respect to
13 the strategy, and planned changes to the strategy.

14 (c) FORM.—The strategy under subsection (a), and
15 the update under subsection (b), shall be submitted in un-
16 classified form.

17 (d) LIMITATION ON DATA SHARING.—

18 (1) LIMITATION.—The Secretary of State may
19 not carry out any project, program, or activity that
20 implements the strategy under subsection (a) for the
21 purpose specified in paragraph (1)(C) of such sub-
22 section until the Secretary submits to the appro-
23 priate congressional committees a notification re-
24 garding the data intended to be shared with foreign
25 countries pursuant to such strategy.

1 (2) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
2 TEES.—In this subsection, the term “appropriate
3 congressional committees” means—

4 (A) the Committee on the Judiciary, the
5 Committee on Homeland Security, the Com-
6 mittee on Foreign Affairs, and the Permanent
7 Select Committee on Intelligence of the House
8 of Representatives; and

9 (B) the Committee on the Judiciary, the
10 Committee on Homeland Security and Govern-
11 mental Affairs, the Committee on Foreign Rela-
12 tions, and the Select Committee on Intelligence
13 of the Senate.

14 **SEC. 3. DEPARTMENT OF STATE REVIEW OF ACCESS TO FI-**
15 **NANCE IN CARICOM MEMBER STATES.**

16 (a) REVIEW.—The Secretary of State, in consultation
17 with the Secretary of Treasury, shall conduct a review to
18 determine any steps, balancing costs and benefits, that the
19 Secretaries could take to expand financial access to the
20 member states of the Caribbean Community (CARICOM),
21 including through a review of—

22 (1) sanctions enforcement laws and compliance
23 standards;

24 (2) reporting requirements pertaining to nar-
25 cotics trafficking and illicit finance thereof;

1 (3) possible expansion of embassies and con-
2 sulates in the region; and

3 (4) programming or lack thereof pertaining to
4 access to capital in the region.

5 (b) REPORT.—The Secretary shall submit to the ap-
6 propriate congressional committees a report on the find-
7 ings of the Secretary pertaining to the review under sub-
8 section (a).

9 (c) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-
10 FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congres-
11 sional committees” means—

12 (1) the Committee on Foreign Affairs and the
13 Committee on Financial Services of the House of
14 Representatives; and

15 (2) the Committee on Foreign Relations and
16 the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Af-
17 fairs of the Senate.