

**AMENDMENT TO THE AMENDMENT IN THE
NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE TO H.R. 2794
OFFERED BY Ms . Jackson Lee**

Amend section 15 to read as follows:

1 SEC. 15. PRESERVING AND RESTORING UNITY OF MIGRANT
2 FAMILIES.

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Commissioner shall maintain
4 family unity to the greatest extent operationally feasible,
5 absent a legal requirement or an articulable safety or secu-
6 rity concern that requires separation, no child appre-
7 hended on the southern border may be separated from a
8 family member apprehended with such child.

9 (b) EXCEPTION.—On a nondelegable basis, an Office
10 of Field Operations Field Director or U.S. Border Patrol
11 Sector Chief may separate a child from a family member
12 only if there is evidence that the child may be a trafficking
13 victim in violation of section 235 of the William Wilber-
14 force Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act
15 of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232) and, in such instances, such Di-
16 rector of Sector Chief, as the case may be, shall retain
17 records of such evidence relied upon for reaching such a
18 determination and, upon separation, the information relat-
19 ing to the locations of the individuals involved.

1 (c) REUNIFICATION.—Until such time as all migrant
2 families and children who were separated by CBP begin-
3 ning in 2017 are reunited, the Secretary, in coordination
4 with the Secretary of Health and Human Services, the
5 Secretary of State, and the Attorney General, shall report,
6 on a quarterly basis, to Congress on the status of inter-
7 agency efforts to so reunify such migrant families, provide
8 needed support services to such reunified families, and
9 prevent future family separations, including of families
10 with United States citizen children.

