Suspend the Rules and Pass the Bill, H.R. 3670, With an Amendment

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

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 3670

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to ensure access to appropriate temporary shelter, food, and water for individuals apprehended by U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 10, 2019

Ms. SLOTKIN (for herself and Mr. THOMPSON of Mississippi) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security

A BILL

To amend the Homeland Security Act of 2002 to ensure access to appropriate temporary shelter, food, and water for individuals apprehended by U.S. Customs and Border Protection, and for other purposes.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.

This Act may be cited as the “Short-Term Detention Standards Act”.

SEC. 2. ACCESS TO APPROPRIATE TEMPORARY SHELTER,
FOOD, AND WATER DURING SHORT-TERM DE-
TENTION.

Paragraph (1) of section 411(m) of the Homeland
Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 211(m)) is amended to
read as follows:

“(1) Access to appropriate temporary
shelter, food, and water.—The Commissioner
shall make every effort to ensure the provision to an
individual apprehended by U.S. Customs and Border
Protection of appropriate temporary shelter with ac-
cess to bathroom and shower facilities, water, appro-
priate nutrition, hygiene, personal grooming items,
and sanitation needs.”.

SEC. 3. AUDIT AND INSPECTIONS OF DETENTION FACILI-
TIES.

(a) OIG AND GAO.—The Inspector General of the
Department of Homeland Security and the Comptroller
General shall carry out regular audits and inspections, in-
cluding unannounced audits and inspections, of processes
(including recordkeeping) utilized by U.S. Customs and
Border Protection to conduct intake and process individ-
uals apprehended by U.S. Customs and Border Protection.
The Inspector General and Comptroller General shall, to
the extent possible, share information and coordinate to
ensure that Congress is provided timely audit and inspection information.

(b) CONGRESSIONAL ACCESS.—The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection may not—

(1) prevent a Member of Congress or an employee of the United States House of Representatives or the United States Senate designated by such a Member for the purposes of this section from entering, for the purpose of conducting oversight, any such facility; and

(2) make any temporary modification at any such facility that in any way alters what is observed by a visiting member of Congress or such designated employee, compared to what would be observed in the absence of such modification.

e) PHOTOGRAPHS.—The Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security, Comptroller General, a Member of Congress, or an employee of the United States House of Representatives or United States Senate shall be authorized to take photographs or video or audio recordings of conditions in a facility but may not publish photographs or video or audio recordings with personally identifiable information without permission.