

**Suspend the Rules And Pass the Bill, H.R. 3602, with Amendments**

**(The amendments strike all after the enacting clause and insert a new text and a new title)**

118<sup>TH</sup> CONGRESS  
2<sup>D</sup> SESSION

# H. R. 3602

To prohibit the intentional hindering of immigration, border, and customs controls, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 23, 2023

Mr. CISCOMANI (for himself, Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas, Mr. BACON, and Mrs. MILLER-MEEKS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

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## A BILL

To prohibit the intentional hindering of immigration, border, and customs controls, 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; TABLE OF CONTENTS.**

4 (a) SHORT TITLE.—This Act may be cited as the  
5 “End the Border Catastrophe Act”.

6 (b) TABLE OF CONTENTS.—The table of contents for  
7 this Act is as follows:

Sec. 1. Short title; table of contents.

## DIVISION A—BORDER SECURITY

- Sec. 101. Definitions.
- Sec. 102. Border wall construction.
- Sec. 103. Strengthening the requirements for barriers along the southern border.
- Sec. 104. Border and port security technology investment plan.
- Sec. 105. Border security technology program management.
- Sec. 106. U.S. Customs and Border Protection technology upgrades.
- Sec. 107. U.S. Customs and Border Protection personnel.
- Sec. 108. Anti-Border Corruption Act reauthorization.
- Sec. 109. Establishment of workload staffing models for U.S. Border Patrol and Air and Marine Operations of CBP.
- Sec. 110. Operation Stonegarden.
- Sec. 111. Air and Marine Operations flight hours.
- Sec. 112. Eradication of carrizo cane and salt cedar.
- Sec. 113. Border patrol strategic plan.
- Sec. 114. U.S. Customs and Border Protection spiritual readiness.
- Sec. 115. Restrictions on funding.
- Sec. 116. Collection of DNA and biometric information at the border.
- Sec. 117. Eradication of narcotic drugs and formulating effective new tools to address yearly losses of life; ensuring timely updates to U.S. Customs and Border Protection field manuals.
- Sec. 118. Publication by U.S. Customs and Border Protection of operational statistics.
- Sec. 119. Alien criminal background checks.
- Sec. 120. Prohibited identification documents at airport security checkpoints; notification to immigration agencies.
- Sec. 121. Prohibition against any COVID-19 vaccine mandate or adverse action against DHS employees.
- Sec. 122. CBP One app limitation.
- Sec. 123. Report on Mexican drug cartels.
- Sec. 124. GAO study on costs incurred by States to secure the southwest border.
- Sec. 125. Report by Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security.
- Sec. 126. Offsetting authorizations of appropriations.
- Sec. 127. Report to Congress on foreign terrorist organizations.
- Sec. 128. Assessment by Inspector General of the Department of Homeland Security on the mitigation of unmanned aircraft systems at the southwest border.

## DIVISION B—IMMIGRATION ENFORCEMENT AND FOREIGN AFFAIRS

## TITLE I—ASYLUM REFORM AND BORDER PROTECTION

- Sec. 101. Safe third country.
- Sec. 102. Credible fear interviews.
- Sec. 103. Clarification of asylum eligibility.
- Sec. 104. Exceptions.
- Sec. 105. Employment authorization.
- Sec. 106. Asylum fees.
- Sec. 107. Rules for determining asylum eligibility.
- Sec. 108. Firm resettlement.
- Sec. 109. Notice concerning frivolous asylum applications.

- Sec. 110. Technical amendments.
- Sec. 111. Requirement for procedures relating to certain asylum applications.

TITLE II—BORDER SAFETY AND MIGRANT PROTECTION

- Sec. 201. Inspection of applicants for admission.
- Sec. 202. Operational detention facilities.

TITLE III—PREVENTING UNCONTROLLED MIGRATION FLOWS IN THE WESTERN HEMISPHERE

- Sec. 301. United States policy regarding Western Hemisphere cooperation on immigration and asylum.
- Sec. 302. Negotiations by Secretary of State.
- Sec. 303. Mandatory briefings on United States efforts to address the border crisis.

TITLE IV—ENSURING UNITED FAMILIES AT THE BORDER

- Sec. 401. Clarification of standards for family detention.

TITLE V—PROTECTION OF CHILDREN

- Sec. 501. Findings.
- Sec. 502. Repatriation of unaccompanied alien children.
- Sec. 503. Special immigrant juvenile status for immigrants unable to reunite with either parent.
- Sec. 504. Rule of construction.

TITLE VI—VISA OVERSTAYS PENALTIES

- Sec. 601. Expanded penalties for illegal entry or presence.

TITLE VII—IMMIGRATION PAROLE REFORM

- Sec. 701. Immigration parole reform.
- Sec. 702. Implementation.
- Sec. 703. Cause of action.
- Sec. 704. Severability.

TITLE VIII—SUPPORTING OUR BORDER STATES

- Sec. 801. Border barrier grants.
- Sec. 802. Law enforcement reimbursement grants.
- Sec. 803. Border Emergency and State Security Fund.
- Sec. 804. Definitions.

**1 DIVISION A—BORDER SECURITY**

**2 SEC. 101. DEFINITIONS.**

**3 In this division:**

- 4 (1) CBP.**—The term “CBP” means U.S. Cus-  
**5 toms and Border Protection.**

1           (2) COMMISSIONER.—The term “Commis-  
2           sioner” means the Commissioner of U.S. Customs  
3           and Border Protection.

4           (3) DEPARTMENT.—The term “Department”  
5           means the Department of Homeland Security.

6           (4) OPERATIONAL CONTROL.—The term “oper-  
7           ational control” has the meaning given such term in  
8           section 2(b) of the Secure Fence Act of 2006 (Public  
9           Law 109–367; 8 U.S.C. 1701 note).

10          (5) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means  
11          the Secretary of Homeland Security.

12          (6) SITUATIONAL AWARENESS.—The term “sit-  
13          uational awareness” has the meaning given such  
14          term in section 1092(a)(7) of the National Defense  
15          Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law  
16          114–328; 6 U.S.C. 223(a)(7)).

17          (7) UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM.—The term  
18          “unmanned aircraft system” has the meaning given  
19          such term in section 44801 of title 49, United  
20          States Code.

21 **SEC. 102. BORDER WALL CONSTRUCTION.**

22          (a) IN GENERAL.—

23               (1) IMMEDIATE RESUMPTION OF BORDER WALL  
24               CONSTRUCTION.—Not later than seven days after  
25               the date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary

1 shall resume all activities related to the construction  
2 of the border wall along the border between the  
3 United States and Mexico that were underway or  
4 being planned for prior to January 20, 2021.

5 (2) USE OF FUNDS.—To carry out this section,  
6 the Secretary shall expend all unexpired funds ap-  
7 propriated or explicitly obligated for the construction  
8 of the border wall that were appropriated or obli-  
9 gated, as the case may be, for use beginning on Oc-  
10 tober 1, 2019.

11 (3) USE OF MATERIALS.—Any unused materials  
12 purchased before the date of the enactment of this  
13 Act for construction of the border wall may be used  
14 for activities related to the construction of the bor-  
15 der wall in accordance with paragraph (1).

16 (b) PLAN TO COMPLETE TACTICAL INFRASTRUC-  
17 TURE AND TECHNOLOGY.—Not later than 90 days after  
18 the date of the enactment of this Act and annually there-  
19 after until construction of the border wall has been com-  
20 pleted, the Secretary shall submit to the appropriate con-  
21 gressional committees an implementation plan, including  
22 annual benchmarks for the construction of 200 miles of  
23 such wall and associated cost estimates for satisfying all  
24 requirements of the construction of the border wall, in-  
25 cluding installation and deployment of tactical infrastruc-

1 ture, technology, and other elements as identified by the  
2 Department prior to January 20, 2021, through the ex-  
3 penditure of funds appropriated or explicitly obligated, as  
4 the case may be, for use, as well as any future funds ap-  
5 propriated or otherwise made available by Congress.

6 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

7 (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-  
8 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-  
9 mittees” means the Committee on Homeland Secu-  
10 rity and the Committee on Appropriations of the  
11 House of Representatives and the Committee on  
12 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and  
13 the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

14 (2) TACTICAL INFRASTRUCTURE.—The term  
15 “tactical infrastructure” includes boat ramps, access  
16 gates, checkpoints, lighting, and roads associated  
17 with a border wall.

18 (3) TECHNOLOGY.—The term “technology” in-  
19 cludes border surveillance and detection technology,  
20 including linear ground detection systems, associated  
21 with a border wall.

1 **SEC. 103. STRENGTHENING THE REQUIREMENTS FOR BAR-**  
2 **RIERS ALONG THE SOUTHERN BORDER.**

3 Section 102 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and  
4 Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (Division C of Pub-  
5 lic Law 104–208; 8 U.S.C. 1103 note) is amended—

6 (1) by amending subsection (a) to read as fol-  
7 lows:

8 “(a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Se-  
9 curity shall take such actions as may be necessary (includ-  
10 ing the removal of obstacles to detection of illegal en-  
11 trants) to design, test, construct, install, deploy, integrate,  
12 and operate physical barriers, tactical infrastructure, and  
13 technology in the vicinity of the southwest border to  
14 achieve situational awareness and operational control of  
15 the southwest border and deter, impede, and detect unlaw-  
16 ful activity.”;

17 (2) in subsection (b)—

18 (A) in the subsection heading, by striking  
19 “FENCING AND ROAD IMPROVEMENTS” and in-  
20 serting “PHYSICAL BARRIERS”;

21 (B) in paragraph (1)—

22 (i) in the heading, by striking “FENC-  
23 ING” and inserting “BARRIERS”;

24 (ii) by amending subparagraph (A) to  
25 read as follows:

1           “(A) REINFORCED BARRIERS.—In carrying  
2 out this section, the Secretary of Homeland Se-  
3 curity shall construct a border wall, including  
4 physical barriers, tactical infrastructure, and  
5 technology, along not fewer than 900 miles of  
6 the southwest border until situational aware-  
7 ness and operational control of the southwest  
8 border is achieved.”;

9           (iii) by amending subparagraph (B) to  
10 read as follows:

11           “(B) PHYSICAL BARRIERS AND TACTICAL  
12 INFRASTRUCTURE.—In carrying out this sec-  
13 tion, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall  
14 deploy along the southwest border the most  
15 practical and effective physical barriers, tactical  
16 infrastructure, and technology available for  
17 achieving situational awareness and operational  
18 control of the southwest border.”;

19           (iv) in subparagraph (C)—

20           (I) by amending clause (i) to  
21 read as follows:

22           “(i) IN GENERAL.—In carrying out  
23 this section, the Secretary of Homeland  
24 Security shall consult with the Secretary of  
25 the Interior, the Secretary of Agriculture,



1 appropriate representatives of State, Trib-  
2 al, and local governments, and appropriate  
3 private property owners in the United  
4 States to minimize the impact on natural  
5 resources, commerce, and sites of historical  
6 or cultural significance for the commu-  
7 nities and residents located near the sites  
8 at which physical barriers, tactical infra-  
9 structure, and technology are to be con-  
10 structed. Such consultation may not delay  
11 such construction for longer than seven  
12 days.”; and

13 (II) in clause (ii)—

14 (aa) in subclause (I), by  
15 striking “or” after the semicolon  
16 at the end;

17 (bb) by amending subclause  
18 (II) to read as follows:

19 “(II) delay the transfer to the  
20 United States of the possession of  
21 property or affect the validity of any  
22 property acquisition by the United  
23 States by purchase or eminent do-  
24 main, or to otherwise affect the emi-

1                    nent domain laws of the United States  
2                    or of any State; or”; and

3                               (cc) by adding at the end  
4                    the following new subclause:

5                               “(III) create any right or liability  
6                    for any party.”; and

7                               (v) by striking subparagraph (D);

8                    (C) in paragraph (2)—

9                               (i) by striking “Attorney General”  
10                   and inserting “Secretary of Homeland Se-  
11                   curity”;

12                              (ii) by striking “this subsection” and  
13                   inserting “this section”; and

14                              (iii) by striking “construction of  
15                   fences” and inserting “the construction of  
16                   physical barriers, tactical infrastructure,  
17                   and technology”;

18                    (D) by amending paragraph (3) to read as  
19                   follows:

20                              “(3) AGENT SAFETY.—In carrying out this sec-  
21                   tion, the Secretary of Homeland Security, when de-  
22                   signing, testing, constructing, installing, deploying,  
23                   integrating, and operating physical barriers, tactical  
24                   infrastructure, or technology, shall incorporate such  
25                   safety features into such design, test, construction,

1 installation, deployment, integration, or operation of  
2 such physical barriers, tactical infrastructure, or  
3 technology, as the case may be, that the Secretary  
4 determines are necessary to maximize the safety and  
5 effectiveness of officers and agents of the Depart-  
6 ment of Homeland Security or of any other Federal  
7 agency deployed in the vicinity of such physical bar-  
8 riers, tactical infrastructure, or technology.”; and

9 (E) in paragraph (4), by striking “this  
10 subsection” and inserting “this section”;

11 (3) in subsection (c)—

12 (A) by amending paragraph (1) to read as  
13 follows:

14 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other  
15 provision of law, the Secretary of Homeland Security  
16 shall waive all legal requirements necessary to en-  
17 sure the expeditious design, testing, construction, in-  
18 stallation, deployment, integration, operation, and  
19 maintenance of the physical barriers, tactical infra-  
20 structure, and technology under this section. The  
21 Secretary shall ensure the maintenance and effec-  
22 tiveness of such physical barriers, tactical infrastruc-  
23 ture, or technology. Any such action by the Sec-  
24 retary shall be effective upon publication in the Fed-  
25 eral Register.”;

1 (B) by redesignating paragraph (2) as  
2 paragraph (3); and

3 (C) by inserting after paragraph (1) the  
4 following new paragraph:

5 “(2) NOTIFICATION.—Not later than seven  
6 days after the date on which the Secretary of Home-  
7 land Security exercises a waiver pursuant to para-  
8 graph (1), the Secretary shall notify the Committee  
9 on Homeland Security of the House of Representa-  
10 tives and the Committee on Homeland Security and  
11 Governmental Affairs of the Senate of such waiver.”;  
12 and

13 (4) by adding at the end the following new sub-  
14 sections:

15 “(e) TECHNOLOGY.—In carrying out this section, the  
16 Secretary of Homeland Security shall deploy along the  
17 southwest border the most practical and effective tech-  
18 nology available for achieving situational awareness and  
19 operational control.

20 “(f) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

21 “(1) ADVANCED UNATTENDED SURVEILLANCE  
22 SENSORS.—The term ‘advanced unattended surveil-  
23 lance sensors’ means sensors that utilize an onboard  
24 computer to analyze detections in an effort to dis-

1 cern between vehicles, humans, and animals, and ul-  
2 timately filter false positives prior to transmission.

3 “(2) OPERATIONAL CONTROL.—The term ‘oper-  
4 ational control’ has the meaning given such term in  
5 section 2(b) of the Secure Fence Act of 2006 (Public  
6 Law 109–367; 8 U.S.C. 1701 note).

7 “(3) PHYSICAL BARRIERS.—The term ‘physical  
8 barriers’ includes reinforced fencing, the border wall,  
9 and levee walls.

10 “(4) SITUATIONAL AWARENESS.—The term ‘sit-  
11 uational awareness’ has the meaning given such  
12 term in section 1092(a)(7) of the National Defense  
13 Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law  
14 114–328; 6 U.S.C. 223(a)(7)).

15 “(5) TACTICAL INFRASTRUCTURE.—The term  
16 ‘tactical infrastructure’ includes boat ramps, access  
17 gates, checkpoints, lighting, and roads.

18 “(6) TECHNOLOGY.—The term ‘technology’ in-  
19 cludes border surveillance and detection technology,  
20 including the following:

21 “(A) Tower-based surveillance technology.

22 “(B) Deployable, lighter-than-air ground  
23 surveillance equipment.

24 “(C) Vehicle and Dismount Exploitation  
25 Radars (VADER).

1           “(D) 3-dimensional, seismic acoustic detec-  
2           tion and ranging border tunneling detection  
3           technology.

4           “(E) Advanced unattended surveillance  
5           sensors.

6           “(F) Mobile vehicle-mounted and man-  
7           portable surveillance capabilities.

8           “(G) Unmanned aircraft systems.

9           “(H) Tunnel detection systems and other  
10          seismic technology.

11          “(I) Fiber-optic cable.

12          “(J) Other border detection, communica-  
13          tion, and surveillance technology.

14          “(7) UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEM.—The term  
15          ‘unmanned aircraft system’ has the meaning given  
16          such term in section 44801 of title 49, United  
17          States Code.”.

18       **SEC. 104. BORDER AND PORT SECURITY TECHNOLOGY IN-**  
19       **VESTMENT PLAN.**

20       (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 180 days after the  
21       date of the enactment of this Act, the Commissioner, in  
22       consultation with covered officials and border and port se-  
23       curity technology stakeholders, shall submit to the appro-  
24       priate congressional committees a strategic 5-year tech-  
25       nology investment plan (in this section referred to as the

1 “plan”). The plan may include a classified annex, if appro-  
2 priate.

3 (b) CONTENTS OF PLAN.—The plan shall include the  
4 following:

5 (1) An analysis of security risks at and between  
6 ports of entry along the northern and southern bor-  
7 ders of the United States.

8 (2) An identification of capability gaps with re-  
9 spect to security at and between such ports of entry  
10 to be mitigated in order to—

11 (A) prevent terrorists and instruments of  
12 terror from entering the United States;

13 (B) combat and reduce cross-border crimi-  
14 nal activity, including—

15 (i) the transport of illegal goods, such  
16 as illicit drugs; and

17 (ii) human smuggling and human  
18 trafficking; and

19 (C) facilitate the flow of legal trade across  
20 the southwest border.

21 (3) An analysis of current and forecast trends  
22 relating to the number of aliens who—

23 (A) unlawfully entered the United States  
24 by crossing the northern or southern border of  
25 the United States; or

1 (B) are unlawfully present in the United  
2 States.

3 (4) A description of security-related technology  
4 acquisitions, to be listed in order of priority, to ad-  
5 dress the security risks and capability gaps analyzed  
6 and identified pursuant to paragraphs (1) and (2),  
7 respectively.

8 (5) A description of each planned security-re-  
9 lated technology program, including objectives, goals,  
10 and timelines for each such program.

11 (6) An identification of each deployed security-  
12 related technology that is at or near the end of the  
13 life cycle of such technology.

14 (7) A description of the test, evaluation, mod-  
15 eling, and simulation capabilities, including target  
16 methodologies, rationales, and timelines, necessary  
17 to support the acquisition of security-related tech-  
18 nologies pursuant to paragraph (4).

19 (8) An identification and assessment of ways to  
20 increase opportunities for communication and col-  
21 laboration with the private sector, small and dis-  
22 advantaged businesses, intragovernment entities,  
23 university centers of excellence, and federal labora-  
24 tories to ensure CBP is able to engage with the mar-  
25 ket for security-related technologies that are avail-



1 able to satisfy its mission needs before engaging in  
2 an acquisition of a security-related technology.

3 (9) An assessment of the management of  
4 planned security-related technology programs by the  
5 acquisition workforce of CBP.

6 (10) An identification of ways to leverage al-  
7 ready-existing acquisition expertise within the Fed-  
8 eral Government.

9 (11) A description of the security resources, in-  
10 cluding information security resources, required to  
11 protect security-related technology from physical or  
12 cyber theft, diversion, sabotage, or attack.

13 (12) A description of initiatives to—

14 (A) streamline the acquisition process of  
15 CBP; and

16 (B) provide to the private sector greater  
17 predictability and transparency with respect to  
18 such process, including information relating to  
19 the timeline for testing and evaluation of secu-  
20 rity-related technology.

21 (13) An assessment of the privacy and security  
22 impact on border communities of security-related  
23 technology.

24 (14) In the case of a new acquisition leading to  
25 the removal of equipment from a port of entry along

1 the northern or southern border of the United  
2 States, a strategy to consult with the private sector  
3 and community stakeholders affected by such re-  
4 moval.

5 (15) A strategy to consult with the private sec-  
6 tor and community stakeholders with respect to se-  
7 curity impacts at a port of entry described in para-  
8 graph (14).

9 (16) An identification of recent technological  
10 advancements in the following:

11 (A) Manned aircraft sensor, communica-  
12 tion, and common operating picture technology.

13 (B) Unmanned aerial systems and related  
14 technology, including counter-unmanned aerial  
15 system technology.

16 (C) Surveillance technology, including the  
17 following:

18 (i) Mobile surveillance vehicles.

19 (ii) Associated electronics, including  
20 cameras, sensor technology, and radar.

21 (iii) Tower-based surveillance tech-  
22 nology.

23 (iv) Advanced unattended surveillance  
24 sensors.

1 (v) Deployable, lighter-than-air,  
2 ground surveillance equipment.

3 (D) Nonintrusive inspection technology, in-  
4 cluding non-x-ray devices utilizing muon tomog-  
5 raphy and other advanced detection technology.

6 (E) Tunnel detection technology.

7 (F) Communications equipment, including  
8 the following:

9 (i) Radios.

10 (ii) Long-term evolution broadband.

11 (iii) Miniature satellites.

12 (c) LEVERAGING THE PRIVATE SECTOR.—To the ex-  
13 tent practicable, the plan shall—

14 (1) leverage emerging technological capabilities,  
15 and research and development trends, within the  
16 public and private sectors;

17 (2) incorporate input from the private sector,  
18 including from border and port security stake-  
19 holders, through requests for information, industry  
20 day events, and other innovative means consistent  
21 with the Federal Acquisition Regulation; and

22 (3) identify security-related technologies that  
23 are in development or deployed, with or without ad-  
24 aptation, that may satisfy the mission needs of CBP.

1 (d) FORM.—To the extent practicable, the plan shall  
2 be published in unclassified form on the website of the  
3 Department.

4 (e) DISCLOSURE.—The plan shall include an identi-  
5 fication of individuals not employed by the Federal Gov-  
6 ernment, and their professional affiliations, who contrib-  
7 uted to the development of the plan.

8 (f) UPDATE AND REPORT.—Not later than the date  
9 that is two years after the date on which the plan is sub-  
10 mitted to the appropriate congressional committees pursu-  
11 ant to subsection (a) and biennially thereafter for ten  
12 years, the Commissioner shall submit to the appropriate  
13 congressional committees—

14 (1) an update of the plan, if appropriate; and

15 (2) a report that includes—

16 (A) the extent to which each security-re-  
17 lated technology acquired by CBP since the ini-  
18 tial submission of the plan or most recent up-  
19 date of the plan, as the case may be, is con-  
20 sistent with the planned technology programs  
21 and projects described pursuant to subsection  
22 (b)(5); and

23 (B) the type of contract and the reason for  
24 acquiring each such security-related technology.

25 (g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1           (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-  
2           TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-  
3           mittees” means—

4                   (A) the Committee on Homeland Security  
5                   and the Committee on Appropriations of the  
6                   House of Representatives; and

7                   (B) the Committee on Homeland Security  
8                   and Governmental Affairs and the Committee  
9                   on Appropriations of the Senate.

10          (2) COVERED OFFICIALS.—The term “covered  
11          officials” means—

12                   (A) the Under Secretary for Management  
13                   of the Department;

14                   (B) the Under Secretary for Science and  
15                   Technology of the Department; and

16                   (C) the Chief Information Officer of the  
17                   Department.

18          (3) UNLAWFULLY PRESENT.—The term “un-  
19          lawfully present” has the meaning provided such  
20          term in section 212(a)(9)(B)(ii) of the Immigration  
21          and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(a)(9)(B)(ii)).

1 **SEC. 105. BORDER SECURITY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM**  
2 **MANAGEMENT.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle C of title IV of the  
4 Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 231 et seq.)  
5 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

6 **“SEC. 437. BORDER SECURITY TECHNOLOGY PROGRAM**  
7 **MANAGEMENT.**

8 “(a) MAJOR ACQUISITION PROGRAM DEFINED.—In  
9 this section, the term ‘major acquisition program’ means  
10 an acquisition program of the Department that is esti-  
11 mated by the Secretary to require an eventual total ex-  
12 penditure of at least \$100,000,000 (based on fiscal year  
13 2024 constant dollars) over its life-cycle cost.

14 “(b) PLANNING DOCUMENTATION.—For each border  
15 security technology acquisition program of the Depart-  
16 ment that is determined to be a major acquisition pro-  
17 gram, the Secretary shall—

18 “(1) ensure that each such program has a writ-  
19 ten acquisition program baseline approved by the  
20 relevant acquisition decision authority;

21 “(2) document that each such program is satis-  
22 fying cost, schedule, and performance thresholds as  
23 specified in such baseline, in compliance with rel-  
24 evant departmental acquisition policies and the Fed-  
25 eral Acquisition Regulation; and

1           “(3) have a plan for satisfying program imple-  
2           mentation objectives by managing contractor per-  
3           formance.

4           “(c) ADHERENCE TO STANDARDS.—The Secretary,  
5           acting through the Under Secretary for Management and  
6           the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection,  
7           shall ensure border security technology acquisition pro-  
8           gram managers who are responsible for carrying out this  
9           section adhere to relevant internal control standards iden-  
10          tified by the Comptroller General of the United States.  
11          The Commissioner shall provide information, as needed,  
12          to assist the Under Secretary in monitoring management  
13          of border security technology acquisition programs under  
14          this section.

15          “(d) PLAN.—The Secretary, acting through the  
16          Under Secretary for Management, in coordination with  
17          the Under Secretary for Science and Technology and the  
18          Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection,  
19          shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of  
20          the House of Representatives and the Committee on  
21          Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the Sen-  
22          ate a plan for testing, evaluating, and using independent  
23          verification and validation of resources relating to the pro-  
24          posed acquisition of border security technology. Under  
25          such plan, the proposed acquisition of new border security

1 technologies shall be evaluated through a series of assess-  
2 ments, processes, and audits to ensure—

3 “(1) compliance with relevant departmental ac-  
4 quisition policies and the Federal Acquisition Regu-  
5 lation; and

6 “(2) the effective use of taxpayer dollars.”.

7 (b) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents  
8 in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is  
9 amended by inserting after the item relating to section  
10 436 the following new item:

“Sec. 437. Border security technology program management.”.

11 (c) PROHIBITION ON ADDITIONAL AUTHORIZATION  
12 OF APPROPRIATIONS.—No additional funds are author-  
13 ized to be appropriated to carry out section 437 of the  
14 Homeland Security Act of 2002, as added by subsection  
15 (a).

16 **SEC. 106. U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION TECH-**  
17 **NOLOGY UPGRADES.**

18 (a) SECURE COMMUNICATIONS.—The Commissioner  
19 shall ensure that each CBP officer or agent, as appro-  
20 priate, is equipped with a secure radio or other two-way  
21 communication device that allows each such officer or  
22 agent to communicate—

23 (1) between ports of entry and inspection sta-  
24 tions; and



1           (2) with other Federal, State, Tribal, and local  
2 law enforcement entities.

3           (b) BORDER SECURITY DEPLOYMENT PROGRAM.—

4           (1) EXPANSION.—Not later than September 30,  
5 2026, the Commissioner shall—

6           (A) fully implement the Border Security  
7 Deployment Program of CBP; and

8           (B) expand the integrated surveillance and  
9 intrusion detection system at land ports of  
10 entry along the northern and southern borders  
11 of the United States.

12           (2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In  
13 addition to amounts otherwise authorized to be ap-  
14 propriated for such purpose, there is authorized to  
15 be appropriated \$33,000,000 for fiscal years 2025  
16 and 2026 to carry out paragraph (1).

17           (c) UPGRADE OF LICENSE PLATE READERS AT  
18 PORTS OF ENTRY.—

19           (1) UPGRADE.—Not later than two years after  
20 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commis-  
21 sioner shall upgrade all existing license plate readers  
22 in need of upgrade, as determined by the Commis-  
23 sioner, on the northern and southern borders of the  
24 United States.

1           (2) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—In  
2           addition to amounts otherwise authorized to be ap-  
3           propriated for such purpose, there is authorized to  
4           be appropriated \$125,000,000 for fiscal years 2024  
5           and 2025 to carry out paragraph (1).

6 **SEC. 107. U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION PER-**  
7                                 **SONNEL.**

8           (a) RETENTION BONUS.—To carry out this section,  
9           there is authorized to be appropriated up to \$100,000,000  
10          to the Commissioner to provide a retention bonus to any  
11          front-line U.S. Border Patrol law enforcement agent—

12                 (1) whose position is equal to or below level  
13                 GS–12 of the General Schedule;

14                 (2) who has five years or more of service with  
15                 the U.S. Border Patrol; and

16                 (3) who commits to two years of additional  
17                 service with the U.S. Border Patrol upon acceptance  
18                 of such bonus.

19          (b) BORDER PATROL AGENTS.—Not later than Sep-  
20          tember 30, 2026, the Commissioner shall hire, train, and  
21          assign a sufficient number of Border Patrol agents to  
22          maintain an active duty presence of not fewer than 22,000  
23          full-time equivalent Border Patrol agents, who may not  
24          perform the duties of processing coordinators.

1 (c) PROHIBITION AGAINST ALIEN TRAVEL.—No per-  
2 sonnel or equipment of Air and Marine Operations may  
3 be used for the transportation of non-detained aliens, or  
4 detained aliens expected to be administratively released  
5 upon arrival, from the southwest border to destinations  
6 within the United States.

7 (d) GAO REPORT.—If the staffing level required  
8 under this section is not achieved by the date associated  
9 with such level, the Comptroller General of the United  
10 States shall—

11 (1) conduct a review of the reasons why such  
12 level was not so achieved; and

13 (2) not later than September 30, 2028, publish  
14 on a publicly available website of the Government  
15 Accountability Office a report relating thereto.

16 **SEC. 108. ANTI-BORDER CORRUPTION ACT REAUTHORIZA-**  
17 **TION.**

18 (a) HIRING FLEXIBILITY.—Section 3 of the Anti-  
19 Border Corruption Act of 2010 (6 U.S.C. 221; Public Law  
20 111–376) is amended by striking subsection (b) and in-  
21 serting the following new subsections:

22 “(b) WAIVER REQUIREMENT.—Subject to subsection  
23 (c), the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Pro-  
24 tection shall waive the application of subsection (a)(1)—

1           “(1) to a current, full-time law enforcement of-  
2           ficer employed by a State or local law enforcement  
3           agency who—

4                   “(A) has continuously served as a law en-  
5                   forcement officer for not fewer than three  
6                   years;

7                   “(B) is authorized by law to engage in or  
8                   supervise the prevention, detection, investiga-  
9                   tion, or prosecution of, or the incarceration of  
10                  any person for, any violation of law, and has  
11                  statutory powers for arrest or apprehension;  
12                  and

13                  “(C) is not currently under investigation,  
14                  has not been found to have engaged in criminal  
15                  activity or serious misconduct, has not resigned  
16                  from a law enforcement officer position under  
17                  investigation or in lieu of termination, and has  
18                  not been dismissed from a law enforcement offi-  
19                  cer position;

20           “(2) to a current, full-time Federal law enforce-  
21           ment officer who—

22                   “(A) has continuously served as a law en-  
23                   forcement officer for not fewer than three  
24                   years;

1           “(B) is authorized to make arrests, con-  
2           duct investigations, conduct searches, make sei-  
3           zures, carry firearms, and serve orders, war-  
4           rants, and other processes;

5           “(C) is not currently under investigation,  
6           has not been found to have engaged in criminal  
7           activity or serious misconduct, has not resigned  
8           from a law enforcement officer position under  
9           investigation or in lieu of termination, and has  
10          not been dismissed from a law enforcement offi-  
11          cer position; and

12          “(D) holds a current Tier 4 background  
13          investigation or current Tier 5 background in-  
14          vestigation; or

15          “(3) to a member of the Armed Forces (or a re-  
16          serve component thereof) or a veteran, if such indi-  
17          vidual—

18                 “(A) has served in the Armed Forces for  
19                 not fewer than three years;

20                 “(B) holds, or has held within the past five  
21                 years, a Secret, Top Secret, or Top Secret/Sen-  
22                 sitive Compartmented Information clearance;

23                 “(C) holds, or has undergone within the  
24                 past five years, a current Tier 4 background in-

1           vestigation or current Tier 5 background inves-  
2           tigation;

3           “(D) received, or is eligible to receive, an  
4           honorable discharge from service in the Armed  
5           Forces and has not engaged in criminal activity  
6           or committed a serious military or civil offense  
7           under the Uniform Code of Military Justice;  
8           and

9           “(E) was not granted any waivers to ob-  
10          tain the clearance referred to in subparagraph  
11          (B).

12          “(c) TERMINATION OF WAIVER REQUIREMENT;  
13 SNAP-BACK.—The requirement to issue a waiver under  
14 subsection (b) shall terminate if the Commissioner of U.S.  
15 Customs and Border Protection (CBP) certifies to the  
16 Committee on Homeland Security of the House of Rep-  
17 resentatives and the Committee on Homeland Security  
18 and Governmental Affairs of the Senate that CBP has met  
19 all requirements pursuant to section 107 of division A of  
20 the End the Border Catastrophe Act relating to personnel  
21 levels. If at any time after such certification personnel lev-  
22 els fall below such requirements, the Commissioner shall  
23 waive the application of subsection (a)(1) until such time  
24 as the Commissioner re-certifies to such Committees that  
25 CBP has so met all such requirements.”.

1 (b) SUPPLEMENTAL COMMISSIONER AUTHORITY;  
2 REPORTING; DEFINITIONS.—The Anti-Border Corruption  
3 Act of 2010 is amended by adding at the end the following  
4 new sections:

5 **“SEC. 5. SUPPLEMENTAL COMMISSIONER AUTHORITY.**

6 “(a) NONEXEMPTION.—An individual who receives a  
7 waiver under section 3(b) is not exempt from any other  
8 hiring requirements relating to suitability for employment  
9 and eligibility to hold a national security designated posi-  
10 tion, as determined by the Commissioner of U.S. Customs  
11 and Border Protection.

12 “(b) BACKGROUND INVESTIGATIONS.—An individual  
13 who receives a waiver under section 3(b) who holds a cur-  
14 rent Tier 4 background investigation shall be subject to  
15 a Tier 5 background investigation.

16 “(c) ADMINISTRATION OF POLYGRAPH EXAMINA-  
17 TION.—The Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border  
18 Protection is authorized to administer a polygraph exam-  
19 ination to an applicant or employee who is eligible for or  
20 receives a waiver under section 3(b) if information is dis-  
21 covered before the completion of a background investiga-  
22 tion that results in a determination that a polygraph ex-  
23 amination is necessary to make a final determination re-  
24 garding suitability for employment or continued employ-  
25 ment, as the case may be.

1 **“SEC. 6. REPORTING.**

2 “(a) ANNUAL REPORT.—Not later than one year  
3 after the date of the enactment of this section and annu-  
4 ally thereafter while the waiver authority under section  
5 3(b) is in effect, the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and  
6 Border Protection shall submit to Congress a report that  
7 includes, with respect to each such reporting period, the  
8 following:

9 “(1) Information relating to the number of  
10 waivers granted under such section 3(b).

11 “(2) Information relating to the percentage of  
12 applicants who were hired after receiving such a  
13 waiver.

14 “(3) Information relating to the number of in-  
15 stances that a polygraph was administered to an ap-  
16 plicant who initially received such a waiver and the  
17 results of such polygraph.

18 “(4) An assessment of the current impact of  
19 such waiver authority on filling law enforcement po-  
20 sitions at U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

21 “(5) An identification of additional authorities  
22 needed by U.S. Customs and Border Protection to  
23 better utilize such waiver authority for its intended  
24 goals.

25 “(b) ADDITIONAL INFORMATION.—The first report  
26 submitted under subsection (a) shall include the following:



1           “(1) An analysis of other methods of employ-  
2           ment suitability tests that detect deception and could  
3           be used in conjunction with traditional background  
4           investigations to evaluate potential applicants or em-  
5           ployees for suitability for employment or continued  
6           employment, as the case may be.

7           “(2) A recommendation regarding whether a  
8           test referred to in paragraph (1) should be adopted  
9           by U.S. Customs and Border Protection when the  
10          polygraph examination requirement is waived pursu-  
11          ant to section 3(b).

12 **“SEC. 7. DEFINITIONS.**

13          “In this Act:

14           “(1) FEDERAL LAW ENFORCEMENT OFFICER.—  
15           The term ‘Federal law enforcement officer’ means a  
16           ‘law enforcement officer’, as such term is defined in  
17           section 8331(20) or 8401(17) of title 5, United  
18           States Code.

19           “(2) SERIOUS MILITARY OR CIVIL OFFENSE.—  
20           The term ‘serious military or civil offense’ means an  
21           offense for which—

22                   “(A) a member of the Armed Forces may  
23                   be discharged or separated from service in the  
24                   Armed Forces; and

1           “(B) a punitive discharge is, or would be,  
2           authorized for the same or a closely related of-  
3           fense under the Manual for Court-Martial, as  
4           pursuant to Army Regulation 635–200, chapter  
5           14–12.

6           “(3) TIER 4; TIER 5.—The terms ‘Tier 4’ and  
7           ‘Tier 5’, with respect to background investigations,  
8           have the meaning given such terms under the 2012  
9           Federal Investigative Standards.

10           “(4) VETERAN.—The term ‘veteran’ has the  
11           meaning given such term in section 101(2) of title  
12           38, United States Code.”.

13           (c) POLYGRAPH EXAMINERS.—Not later than Sep-  
14           tember 30, 2025, the Secretary shall increase to not fewer  
15           than 150 the number of trained full-time equivalent poly-  
16           graph examiners for administering polygraphs under the  
17           Anti-Border Corruption Act of 2010, as amended by this  
18           section.

19           **SEC. 109. ESTABLISHMENT OF WORKLOAD STAFFING MOD-**  
20                                   **ELS FOR U.S. BORDER PATROL AND AIR AND**  
21                                   **MARINE OPERATIONS OF CBP.**

22           (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the  
23           date of the enactment of this Act, the Commissioner, in  
24           coordination with the Under Secretary for Management,  
25           the Chief Human Capital Officer, and the Chief Financial

1 Officer of the Department, shall implement a workload  
2 staffing model for each of the following:

3 (1) The U.S. Border Patrol.

4 (2) Air and Marine Operations of CBP.

5 (b) RESPONSIBILITIES OF THE COMMISSIONER.—

6 Subsection (c) of section 411 of the Homeland Security  
7 Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 211), is amended—

8 (1) by redesignating paragraphs (18) and (19)  
9 as paragraphs (20) and (21), respectively; and

10 (2) by inserting after paragraph (17) the fol-  
11 lowing new paragraphs:

12 “(18) implement a staffing model for the U.S.  
13 Border Patrol, Air and Marine Operations, and the  
14 Office of Field Operations that includes consider-  
15 ation for essential frontline operator activities and  
16 functions, variations in operating environments,  
17 present and planned infrastructure, present and  
18 planned technology, and required operations support  
19 levels to enable such entities to manage and assign  
20 personnel of such entities to ensure field and sup-  
21 port posts possess adequate resources to carry out  
22 duties specified in this section;

23 “(19) develop standard operating procedures  
24 for a workforce tracking system within the U.S.  
25 Border Patrol, Air and Marine Operations, and the

1 Office of Field Operations, train the workforce of  
2 each of such entities on the use, capabilities, and  
3 purpose of such system, and implement internal con-  
4 trols to ensure timely and accurate scheduling and  
5 reporting of actual completed work hours and activi-  
6 ties;”.

7 (c) REPORT.—

8 (1) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year  
9 after the date of the enactment of this Act with re-  
10 spect to subsection (a) and paragraphs (18) and  
11 (19) of section 411(c) of the Homeland Security Act  
12 of 2002 (as amended by subsection (b)), and annu-  
13 ally thereafter with respect to such paragraphs (18)  
14 and (19), the Secretary shall submit to the appro-  
15 priate congressional committees a report that in-  
16 cludes a status update on the following:

17 (A) The implementation of such subsection  
18 (a) and such paragraphs (18) and (19).

19 (B) Each relevant workload staffing model.

20 (2) DATA SOURCES AND METHODOLOGY RE-  
21 QUIRED.—Each report required under paragraph (1)  
22 shall include information relating to the data sources  
23 and methodology used to generate each relevant  
24 staffing model.

1 (d) INSPECTOR GENERAL REVIEW.—Not later than  
2 90 days after the Commissioner develops the workload  
3 staffing models pursuant to subsection (a), the Inspector  
4 General of the Department shall review such models and  
5 provide feedback to the Secretary and the appropriate con-  
6 gressional committees with respect to the degree to which  
7 such models are responsive to the recommendations of the  
8 Inspector General, including the following:

9 (1) Recommendations from the Inspector Gen-  
10 eral’s February 2019 audit.

11 (2) Any further recommendations to improve  
12 such models.

13 (e) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-  
14 FINED.—In this section, the term “appropriate congres-  
15 sional committees” means—

16 (1) the Committee on Homeland Security of the  
17 House of Representatives; and

18 (2) the Committee on Homeland Security and  
19 Governmental Affairs of the Senate.

20 **SEC. 110. OPERATION STONEGARDEN.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—Subtitle A of title XX of the  
22 Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 601 et seq.)  
23 is amended by adding at the end the following new section:

1 **“SEC. 2010. OPERATION STONEGARDEN.**

2 “(a) **ESTABLISHMENT.**—There is established in the  
3 Department a program to be known as ‘Operation  
4 Stonegarden’, under which the Secretary, acting through  
5 the Administrator, shall make grants to eligible law en-  
6 forcement agencies, through State administrative agen-  
7 cies, to enhance border security in accordance with this  
8 section.

9 “(b) **ELIGIBLE RECIPIENTS.**—To be eligible to re-  
10 ceive a grant under this section, a law enforcement agency  
11 shall—

12 “(1) be located in—

13 “(A) a State bordering Canada or Mexico;

14 or

15 “(B) a State or territory with a maritime  
16 border;

17 “(2) be involved in an active, ongoing, U.S.  
18 Customs and Border Protection operation coordi-  
19 nated through a U.S. Border Patrol sector office;  
20 and

21 “(3) have an agreement in place with U.S. Im-  
22 migration and Customs Enforcement to support en-  
23 forcement operations.

24 “(c) **PERMITTED USES.**—A recipient of a grant  
25 under this section may use such grant for costs associated  
26 with the following:

1           “(1) Equipment, including maintenance and  
2           sustainment.

3           “(2) Personnel, including overtime and backfill,  
4           in support of enhanced border law enforcement ac-  
5           tivities.

6           “(3) Any activity permitted for Operation  
7           Stonegarden under the most recent fiscal year De-  
8           partment of Homeland Security’s Homeland Secu-  
9           rity Grant Program Notice of Funding Opportunity.

10          “(d) PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE.—The Secretary  
11          shall award grants under this section to grant recipients  
12          for a period of not fewer than 36 months.

13          “(e) NOTIFICATION.—Upon denial of a grant to a law  
14          enforcement agency, the Administrator shall provide writ-  
15          ten notice to the Committee on Homeland Security of the  
16          House of Representatives and the Committee on Home-  
17          land Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate, in-  
18          cluding the reasoning for such denial.

19          “(f) REPORT.—For each of fiscal years 2024 through  
20          2028 the Administrator shall submit to the Committee on  
21          Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and  
22          the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental  
23          Affairs of the Senate a report that contains—

24                 “(1) information on the expenditure of grants  
25                 made under this section by each grant recipient; and

1           “(2) recommendations for other uses of such  
2           grants to further support eligible law enforcement  
3           agencies.

4           “(g) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There  
5 is authorized to be appropriated \$110,000,000 for each  
6 of fiscal years 2024 through 2028 for grants under this  
7 section.”.

8           (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Subsection (a) of  
9 section 2002 of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6  
10 U.S.C. 603) is amended to read as follows:

11           “(a) GRANTS AUTHORIZED.—The Secretary, through  
12 the Administrator, may award grants under sections 2003,  
13 2004, 2009, and 2010 to State, local, and Tribal govern-  
14 ments, as appropriate.”.

15           (c) CLERICAL AMENDMENT.—The table of contents  
16 in section 1(b) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002 is  
17 amended by inserting after the item relating to section  
18 2009 the following new item:

“Sec. 2010. Operation Stonegarden.”.

19 **SEC. 111. AIR AND MARINE OPERATIONS FLIGHT HOURS.**

20           (a) AIR AND MARINE OPERATIONS FLIGHT  
21 HOURS.—Not later than 120 days after the date of the  
22 enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall ensure that not  
23 fewer than 110,000 annual flight hours are carried out  
24 by Air and Marine Operations of CBP.



1 (b) UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS.—The Sec-  
2 retary, after coordination with the Administrator of the  
3 Federal Aviation Administration, shall ensure that Air and  
4 Marine Operations operate unmanned aircraft systems on  
5 the southern border of the United States for not less than  
6 24 hours per day.

7 (c) PRIMARY MISSIONS.—The Commissioner shall  
8 ensure the following:

9 (1) The primary missions for Air and Marine  
10 Operations are to directly support the following:

11 (A) U.S. Border Patrol activities along the  
12 borders of the United States.

13 (B) Joint Interagency Task Force South  
14 and Joint Task Force East operations in the  
15 transit zone.

16 (2) The Executive Assistant Commissioner of  
17 Air and Marine Operations assigns the greatest pri-  
18 ority to support missions specified in paragraph (1).

19 (d) HIGH DEMAND FLIGHT HOUR REQUIRE-  
20 MENTS.—The Commissioner shall—

21 (1) ensure that U.S. Border Patrol Sector  
22 Chiefs identify air support mission-critical hours;  
23 and

24 (2) direct Air and Marine Operations to sup-  
25 port requests from such Sector Chiefs as a compo-

1           nent of the primary mission of Air and Marine Op-  
2           erations in accordance with subsection (c)(1)(A).

3           (e) CONTRACT AIR SUPPORT AUTHORIZATIONS.—

4 The Commissioner shall contract for air support mission-  
5 critical hours to meet the requests for such hours, as iden-  
6 tified pursuant to subsection (d).

7           (f) SMALL UNMANNED AIRCRAFT SYSTEMS.—

8                 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Chief of the U.S. Bor-  
9           der Patrol shall be the executive agent with respect  
10          to the use of small unmanned aircraft by CBP for  
11          the purposes of the following:

12                         (A) Meeting the unmet flight hour oper-  
13                         ational requirements of the U.S. Border Patrol.

14                         (B) Achieving situational awareness and  
15                         operational control of the borders of the United  
16                         States.

17           (2) COORDINATION.—In carrying out para-  
18          graph (1), the Chief of the U.S. Border Patrol shall  
19          coordinate—

20                         (A) flight operations with the Adminis-  
21                         trator of the Federal Aviation Administration to  
22                         ensure the safe and efficient operation of the  
23                         national airspace system; and

1 (B) with the Executive Assistant Commis-  
2 sioner for Air and Marine Operations of CBP  
3 to—

4 (i) ensure the safety of other CBP  
5 aircraft flying in the vicinity of small un-  
6 manned aircraft operated by the U.S. Bor-  
7 der Patrol; and

8 (ii) establish a process to include data  
9 from flight hours in the calculation of got  
10 away statistics.

11 (3) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Paragraph (3)  
12 of section 411(e) of the Homeland Security Act of  
13 2002 (6 U.S.C. 211(e)) is amended—

14 (A) in subparagraph (B), by striking  
15 “and” after the semicolon at the end;

16 (B) by redesignating subparagraph (C) as  
17 subparagraph (D); and

18 (C) by inserting after subparagraph (B)  
19 the following new subparagraph:

20 “(C) carry out the small unmanned air-  
21 craft (as such term is defined in section 44801  
22 of title 49, United States Code) requirements  
23 pursuant to subsection (f) of section 111 of di-  
24 vision A of the End the Border Catastrophe  
25 Act; and”.

1 (g) SAVINGS CLAUSE.—Nothing in this section may  
2 be construed as conferring, transferring, or delegating to  
3 the Secretary, the Commissioner, the Executive Assistant  
4 Commissioner for Air and Marine Operations of CBP, or  
5 the Chief of the U.S. Border Patrol any authority of the  
6 Secretary of Transportation or the Administrator of the  
7 Federal Aviation Administration relating to the use of air-  
8 space or aviation safety.

9 (h) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

10 (1) GOT AWAY.—The term “got away” has the  
11 meaning given such term in section 1092(a)(3) of  
12 the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal  
13 Year 2017 (Public Law 114–328; 6 U.S.C.  
14 223(a)(3)).

15 (2) TRANSIT ZONE.—The term “transit zone”  
16 has the meaning given such term in section  
17 1092(a)(8) of the National Defense Authorization  
18 Act for Fiscal Year 2017 (Public Law 114–328; 6  
19 U.S.C. 223(a)(8)).

20 **SEC. 112. ERADICATION OF CARRIZO CANE AND SALT**  
21 **CEDAR.**

22 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 30 days after the  
23 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary, in coordi-  
24 nation with the heads of relevant Federal, State, and local  
25 agencies, shall hire contractors to begin eradicating the

1 carrizo cane plant and any salt cedar along the Rio  
2 Grande River that impedes border security operations.

3 Such eradication shall be completed—

4 (1) by not later than September 30, 2028, ex-  
5 cept for required maintenance; and

6 (2) in the most expeditious and cost-effective  
7 manner possible to maintain clear fields of view.

8 (b) APPLICATION.—The waiver authority under sub-  
9 section (c) of section 102 of the Illegal Immigration Re-  
10 form and Immigrant Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C.  
11 1103 note), as amended by section 103 of this division,  
12 shall apply to activities carried out pursuant to subsection  
13 (a).

14 (c) REPORT.—Not later than 180 days after the date  
15 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit  
16 to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of  
17 Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security  
18 and Governmental Affairs of the Senate a strategic plan  
19 to eradicate all carrizo cane plant and salt cedar along  
20 the Rio Grande River that impedes border security oper-  
21 ations by not later than September 30, 2028.

22 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There is  
23 authorized to be appropriated \$7,000,000 for each of fis-  
24 cal years 2025 through 2028 to the Secretary to carry  
25 out this subsection.

1 **SEC. 113. BORDER PATROL STRATEGIC PLAN.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than one year after the  
3 date of the enactment of this Act and biennially thereafter,  
4 the Commissioner, acting through the Chief of the U.S.  
5 Border Patrol, shall issue a Border Patrol Strategic Plan  
6 (referred to in this section as the “plan”) to enhance the  
7 security of the borders of the United States.

8 (b) ELEMENTS.—The plan shall include the fol-  
9 lowing:

10 (1) A consideration of Border Patrol Capability  
11 Gap Analysis reporting, Border Security Improve-  
12 ment Plans, and any other strategic document au-  
13 thored by the U.S. Border Patrol to address security  
14 gaps between ports of entry, including efforts to  
15 mitigate threats identified in such analyses, plans,  
16 and documents.

17 (2) Information relating to the dissemination of  
18 information relating to border security or border  
19 threats with respect to the efforts of the Department  
20 and other appropriate Federal agencies.

21 (3) Information relating to efforts by U.S. Bor-  
22 der Patrol to—

23 (A) increase situational awareness, includ-  
24 ing—

25 (i) surveillance capabilities, such as  
26 capabilities developed or utilized by the

1 Department of Defense, and any appro-  
2 priate technology determined to be excess  
3 by the Department of Defense; and

4 (ii) the use of manned aircraft and  
5 unmanned aircraft;

6 (B) detect and prevent terrorists and in-  
7 struments of terrorism from entering the  
8 United States;

9 (C) detect, interdict, and disrupt between  
10 ports of entry aliens unlawfully present in the  
11 United States;

12 (D) detect, interdict, and disrupt human  
13 smuggling, human trafficking, drug trafficking,  
14 and other illicit cross-border activity;

15 (E) focus intelligence collection to disrupt  
16 transnational criminal organizations outside of  
17 the international and maritime borders of the  
18 United States; and

19 (F) ensure that any new border security  
20 technology can be operationally integrated with  
21 existing technologies in use by the Department.

22 (4) Information relating to initiatives of the De-  
23 partment with respect to operational coordination,  
24 including any relevant task forces of the Depart-  
25 ment.

1           (5) Information gathered from the lessons  
2 learned by the deployments of the National Guard to  
3 the southern border of the United States.

4           (6) A description of cooperative agreements re-  
5 lating to information sharing with State, local, Trib-  
6 al, territorial, and other Federal law enforcement  
7 agencies that have jurisdiction on the borders of the  
8 United States.

9           (7) Information relating to border security in-  
10 formation received from the following:

11           (A) State, local, Tribal, territorial, and  
12 other Federal law enforcement agencies that  
13 have jurisdiction on the borders of the United  
14 States or in the maritime environment.

15           (B) Border community stakeholders, in-  
16 cluding representatives from the following:

17           (i) Border agricultural and ranching  
18 organizations.

19           (ii) Business and civic organizations.

20           (iii) Hospitals and rural clinics within  
21 150 miles of the borders of the United  
22 States.

23           (iv) Victims of crime committed by  
24 aliens unlawfully present in the United  
25 States.



1 (v) Victims impacted by drugs,  
2 transnational criminal organizations, car-  
3 tels, gangs, or other criminal activity.

4 (vi) Farmers, ranchers, and property  
5 owners along the border.

6 (vii) Other individuals negatively im-  
7 pacted by illegal immigration.

8 (8) Information relating to the staffing require-  
9 ments with respect to border security for the De-  
10 partment.

11 (9) A prioritized list of Department research  
12 and development objectives to enhance the security  
13 of the borders of the United States.

14 (10) An assessment of training programs, in-  
15 cluding such programs relating to the following:

16 (A) Identifying and detecting fraudulent  
17 documents.

18 (B) Understanding the scope of CBP en-  
19 forcement authorities and appropriate use of  
20 force policies.

21 (C) Screening, identifying, and addressing  
22 vulnerable populations, such as children and  
23 victims of human trafficking.

1 **SEC. 114. U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION SPIR-**  
2 **ITUAL READINESS.**

3 Not later than one year after the enactment of this  
4 Act and annually thereafter for five years, the Commis-  
5 sioner shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Secu-  
6 rity of the House of Representatives and the Committee  
7 on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the  
8 Senate a report on the availability and usage of the assist-  
9 ance of chaplains, prayer groups, houses of worship, and  
10 other spiritual resources for members of CBP who identify  
11 as religiously affiliated and have attempted suicide, have  
12 suicidal ideation, or are at risk of suicide, and metrics on  
13 the impact such resources have in assisting religiously af-  
14 filiated members who have access to and utilize such re-  
15 sources compared to religiously affiliated members who do  
16 not.

17 **SEC. 115. RESTRICTIONS ON FUNDING.**

18 (a) ARRIVING ALIENS.—No funds are authorized to  
19 be appropriated to the Department to process the entry  
20 into the United States of aliens arriving in between ports  
21 of entry.

22 (b) RESTRICTION ON NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANI-  
23 ZATION SUPPORT FOR UNLAWFUL ACTIVITY.—No funds  
24 are authorized to be appropriated to the Department for  
25 disbursement to any nongovernmental organization that  
26 facilitates or encourages unlawful activity, including un-

1 lawful entry, human trafficking, human smuggling, drug  
2 trafficking, and drug smuggling.

3 (c) RESTRICTION ON NONGOVERNMENTAL ORGANI-  
4 ZATION FACILITATION OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRATION.—No  
5 funds are authorized to be appropriated to the Depart-  
6 ment for disbursement to any nongovernmental organiza-  
7 tion to provide, or facilitate the provision of, transpor-  
8 tation, lodging, or immigration legal services to inadmis-  
9 sible aliens who enter the United States after the date of  
10 the enactment of this Act.

11 **SEC. 116. COLLECTION OF DNA AND BIOMETRIC INFORMA-**  
12 **TION AT THE BORDER.**

13 Not later than 14 days after the date of the enact-  
14 ment of this Act, the Secretary shall ensure and certify  
15 to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of  
16 Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security  
17 and Governmental Affairs of the Senate that CBP is fully  
18 compliant with Federal DNA and biometric collection re-  
19 quirements at United States land borders.

1 **SEC. 117. ERADICATION OF NARCOTIC DRUGS AND FORMU-**  
2 **LATING EFFECTIVE NEW TOOLS TO ADDRESS**  
3 **YEARLY LOSSES OF LIFE; ENSURING TIMELY**  
4 **UPDATES TO U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER**  
5 **PROTECTION FIELD MANUALS.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the  
7 date of the enactment of this Act, and not less frequently  
8 than triennially thereafter, the Commissioner of U.S. Cus-  
9 toms and Border Protection shall review and update, as  
10 necessary, the current policies and manuals of the Office  
11 of Field Operations related to inspections at ports of  
12 entry, and the U.S. Border Patrol related to inspections  
13 between ports of entry, to ensure the uniform implementa-  
14 tion of inspection practices that will effectively respond to  
15 technological and methodological changes designed to dis-  
16 guise unlawful activity, such as the smuggling of drugs  
17 and humans, along the border.

18 (b) REPORTING REQUIREMENT.—Not later than 90  
19 days after each update required under subsection (a), the  
20 Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
21 shall submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and  
22 the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Rep-  
23 resentatives and the Committee on Homeland Security  
24 and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on the Judi-  
25 ciary of the Senate a report that summarizes any policy  
26 and manual changes pursuant to subsection (a).

1 **SEC. 118. PUBLICATION BY U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER**  
2 **PROTECTION OF OPERATIONAL STATISTICS.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than the seventh day of  
4 each month beginning with the second full month after  
5 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commissioner  
6 of U.S. Customs and Border Protection shall publish on  
7 a publicly available website of the Department of Home-  
8 land Security information relating to the total number of  
9 alien encounters and nationalities, unique alien encounters  
10 and nationalities, gang affiliated apprehensions and na-  
11 tionalities, drug seizures, alien encounters included in the  
12 terrorist screening database and nationalities, arrests of  
13 criminal aliens or individuals wanted by law enforcement  
14 and nationalities, known got aways, encounters with de-  
15 ceased aliens, and all other related or associated statistics  
16 recorded by U.S. Customs and Border Protection during  
17 the immediately preceding month. Each such publication  
18 shall include the following:

19 (1) The aggregate such number, and such num-  
20 ber disaggregated by geographic regions, of such re-  
21 cordings and encounters, including specifications re-  
22 lating to whether such recordings and encounters  
23 were at the southwest, northern, or maritime border.

24 (2) An identification of the Office of Field Op-  
25 erations field office, U.S. Border Patrol sector, or

1 Air and Marine Operations branch making each re-  
2 cording or encounter.

3 (3) Information relating to whether each re-  
4 cording or encounter of an alien was of a single  
5 adult, an unaccompanied alien child, or an individual  
6 in a family unit.

7 (4) Information relating to the processing dis-  
8 position of each alien recording or encounter.

9 (5) Information relating to the nationality of  
10 each alien who is the subject of each recording or  
11 encounter.

12 (6) The total number of individuals included in  
13 the terrorist screening database (as such term is de-  
14 fined in section 2101 of the Homeland Security Act  
15 of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 621)) who have repeatedly at-  
16 tempted to cross unlawfully into the United States.

17 (7) The total number of individuals included in  
18 the terrorist screening database who have been ap-  
19 prehended, including information relating to whether  
20 such individuals were released into the United States  
21 or removed.

22 (b) EXCEPTIONS.—If the Commissioner of U.S. Cus-  
23 toms and Border Protection in any month does not publish  
24 the information required under subsection (a), or does not  
25 publish such information by the date specified in such sub-

1 section, the Commissioner shall brief the Committee on  
2 Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and  
3 the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental  
4 Affairs of the Senate regarding the reason relating there-  
5 to, as the case may be, by not later than the date that  
6 is two business days after the tenth day of such month.

7 (c) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

8 (1) ALIEN ENCOUNTERS.—The term “alien en-  
9 counters” means aliens apprehended, determined in-  
10 admissible, or processed for removal by U.S. Cus-  
11 toms and Border Protection.

12 (2) GOT AWAY.—The term “got away” has the  
13 meaning given such term in section 1092(a) of the  
14 National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year  
15 2017 (6 U.S.C. 223(a)).

16 (3) TERRORIST SCREENING DATABASE.—The  
17 term “terrorist screening database” has the meaning  
18 given such term in section 2101 of the Homeland  
19 Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 621).

20 (4) UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHILD.—The term  
21 “unaccompanied alien child” has the meaning given  
22 such term in section 462(g) of the Homeland Secu-  
23 rity Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 279(g)).

1 **SEC. 119. ALIEN CRIMINAL BACKGROUND CHECKS.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than seven days after  
3 the date of the enactment of this Act, the Commissioner  
4 shall certify to the Committee on Homeland Security and  
5 the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Rep-  
6 resentatives and the Committee on Homeland Security  
7 and Governmental Affairs and the Committee on the Judi-  
8 ciary of the Senate that CBP has real-time access to the  
9 criminal history databases of all countries of origin and  
10 transit for aliens encountered by CBP to perform criminal  
11 history background checks for such aliens.

12 (b) STANDARDS.—The certification required under  
13 subsection (a) shall also include a determination whether  
14 the criminal history databases of a country are accurate,  
15 up to date, digitized, searchable, and otherwise meet the  
16 standards of the Federal Bureau of Investigation for  
17 criminal history databases maintained by State and local  
18 governments.

19 (c) CERTIFICATION.—The Secretary shall annually  
20 submit to the Committee on Homeland Security and the  
21 Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Representa-  
22 tives and the Committee on Homeland Security and Gov-  
23 ernmental Affairs and the Committee on the Judiciary of  
24 the Senate a certification that each database referred to  
25 in subsection (b) which the Secretary accessed or sought



1 to access pursuant to this section met the standards de-  
2 scribed in subsection (b).

3 **SEC. 120. PROHIBITED IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENTS AT**  
4 **AIRPORT SECURITY CHECKPOINTS; NOTIFI-**  
5 **CATION TO IMMIGRATION AGENCIES.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Administrator may not ac-  
7 cept as valid proof of identification a prohibited identifica-  
8 tion document at an airport security checkpoint.

9 (b) NOTIFICATION TO IMMIGRATION AGENCIES.—If  
10 an individual presents a prohibited identification docu-  
11 ment to an officer of the Transportation Security Admin-  
12 istration at an airport security checkpoint, the Adminis-  
13 trator shall promptly notify the Director of U.S. Immigra-  
14 tion and Customs Enforcement, the Director of U.S. Cus-  
15 toms and Border Protection, and the head of the appro-  
16 priate local law enforcement agency to determine whether  
17 the individual is in violation of any term of release from  
18 the custody of any such agency.

19 (c) ENTRY INTO STERILE AREAS.—

20 (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-  
21 graph (2), if an individual is found to be in violation  
22 of any term of release under subsection (b), the Ad-  
23 ministrator may not permit such individual to enter  
24 a sterile area.

1           (2) EXCEPTION.—An individual presenting a  
2 prohibited identification document under this section  
3 may enter a sterile area if the individual—

4                   (A) is leaving the United States for the  
5 purposes of removal or deportation; or

6                   (B) presents a covered identification docu-  
7 ment.

8           (d) COLLECTION OF BIOMETRIC INFORMATION FROM  
9 CERTAIN INDIVIDUALS SEEKING ENTRY INTO THE STER-  
10 ILE AREA OF AN AIRPORT.—Beginning not later than 120  
11 days after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Ad-  
12 ministrator shall collect biometric information from an in-  
13 dividual described in subsection (e) prior to authorizing  
14 such individual to enter into a sterile area.

15           (e) INDIVIDUAL DESCRIBED.—An individual de-  
16 scribed in this subsection is an individual who—

17                   (1) is seeking entry into the sterile area of an  
18 airport;

19                   (2) does not present a covered identification  
20 document; and

21                   (3) the Administrator cannot verify is a na-  
22 tional of the United States.

23           (f) PARTICIPATION IN IDENT.—Beginning not later  
24 than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act,  
25 the Administrator, in coordination with the Secretary,

1 shall submit biometric data collected under this section to  
2 the Automated Biometric Identification System (IDENT).

3 (g) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

4 (1) ADMINISTRATOR.—The term “Adminis-  
5 trator” means the Administrator of the Transpor-  
6 tation Security Administration.

7 (2) BIOMETRIC INFORMATION.—The term “bio-  
8 metric information” means any of the following:

9 (A) A fingerprint.

10 (B) A palm print.

11 (C) A photograph, including—

12 (i) a photograph of an individual’s  
13 face for use with facial recognition tech-  
14 nology; and

15 (ii) a photograph of any physical or  
16 anatomical feature, such as a scar, skin  
17 mark, or tattoo.

18 (D) A signature.

19 (E) A voice print.

20 (F) An iris image.

21 (3) COVERED IDENTIFICATION DOCUMENT.—

22 The term “covered identification document” means  
23 any of the following, if the document is valid and  
24 unexpired:

1 (A) A United States passport or passport  
2 card.

3 (B) A biometrically secure card issued by  
4 a trusted traveler program of the Department  
5 of Homeland Security, including—

6 (i) Global Entry;

7 (ii) Nexus;

8 (iii) Secure Electronic Network for  
9 Travelers Rapid Inspection (SENTRI);  
10 and

11 (iv) Free and Secure Trade (FAST).

12 (C) An identification card issued by the  
13 Department of Defense, including such a card  
14 issued to a dependent.

15 (D) Any document required for admission  
16 to the United States under section 211(a) of  
17 the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.  
18 1181(a)).

19 (E) An enhanced driver's license issued by  
20 a State.

21 (F) A photo identification card issued by a  
22 federally recognized Indian Tribe.

23 (G) A personal identity verification creden-  
24 tial issued in accordance with Homeland Secu-  
25 rity Presidential Directive 12.

1 (H) A driver's license issued by a province  
2 of Canada.

3 (I) A Secure Certificate of Indian Status  
4 issued by the Government of Canada.

5 (J) A Transportation Worker Identifica-  
6 tion Credential.

7 (K) A Merchant Mariner Credential issued  
8 by the Coast Guard.

9 (L) A Veteran Health Identification Card  
10 issued by the Department of Veterans Affairs.

11 (M) Any other document the Administrator  
12 determines, pursuant to a rule making in ac-  
13 cordance with section 553 of title 5, United  
14 States Code, will satisfy the identity verification  
15 procedures of the Transportation Security Ad-  
16 ministration.

17 (4) IMMIGRATION LAWS.—The term “immigra-  
18 tion laws” has the meaning given that term in sec-  
19 tion 101 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8  
20 U.S.C. 1101).

21 (5) PROHIBITED IDENTIFICATION DOCU-  
22 MENT.—The term “prohibited identification docu-  
23 ment” means any of the following (or any applicable  
24 successor form):

1 (A) U.S. Immigration and Customs En-  
2 forcement Form I-200, Warrant for Arrest of  
3 Alien.

4 (B) U.S. Immigration and Customs En-  
5 forcement Form I-205, Warrant of Removal/  
6 Deportation.

7 (C) U.S. Immigration and Customs En-  
8 forcement Form I-220A, Order of Release on  
9 Recognizance.

10 (D) U.S. Immigration and Customs En-  
11 forcement Form I-220B, Order of Supervision.

12 (E) Department of Homeland Security  
13 Form I-862, Notice to Appear.

14 (F) U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
15 Form I-94, Arrival/Departure Record (includ-  
16 ing a print-out of an electronic record).

17 (G) Department of Homeland Security  
18 Form I-385, Notice to Report.

19 (H) Any document that directs an indi-  
20 vidual to report to the Department of Home-  
21 land Security.

22 (I) Any Department of Homeland Security  
23 work authorization or employment verification  
24 document.

1           (6) STERILE AREA.—The term “sterile area”  
2           has the meaning given that term in section 1540.5  
3           of title 49, Code of Federal Regulations, or any suc-  
4           cessor regulation.

5 **SEC. 121. PROHIBITION AGAINST ANY COVID-19 VACCINE**  
6                           **MANDATE OR ADVERSE ACTION AGAINST**  
7                           **DHS EMPLOYEES.**

8           (a) LIMITATION ON IMPOSITION OF NEW MAN-  
9           DATE.—The Secretary may not issue any COVID-19 vac-  
10          cine mandate unless Congress expressly authorizes such  
11          a mandate.

12          (b) PROHIBITION ON ADVERSE ACTION.—The Sec-  
13          retary may not take any adverse action against a Depart-  
14          ment employee based solely on the refusal of such em-  
15          ployee to receive a vaccine for COVID-19.

16          (c) REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after the date  
17          of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall report  
18          to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House of  
19          Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Security  
20          and Governmental Affairs of the Senate on the following:

21                 (1) The number of Department employees who  
22                 were terminated or resigned due to the COVID-19  
23                 vaccine mandate.

24                 (2) An estimate of the cost to reinstate such  
25                 employees.

1           (3) How the Department would effectuate rein-  
2           statement of such employees.

3           (d)    RETENTION    AND    DEVELOPMENT    OF  
4 UNVACCINATED EMPLOYEES.—The Secretary shall make  
5 every effort to retain Department employees who are not  
6 vaccinated against COVID–19 and provide such employees  
7 with professional development, promotion and leadership  
8 opportunities, and consideration equal to that of their  
9 peers.

10 **SEC. 122. CBP ONE APP LIMITATION.**

11           (a) LIMITATION.—The Department may use the CBP  
12 One Mobile Application or any other similar program, ap-  
13 plication, internet-based portal, website, device, or initia-  
14 tive only for inspection of perishable cargo.

15           (b) REPORT.—Not later than 60 days after the date  
16 of the enactment of this Act, the Commissioner shall re-  
17 port to the Committee on Homeland Security of the House  
18 of Representatives and the Committee on Homeland Secu-  
19 rity and Governmental Affairs of the Senate the date on  
20 which CBP began using CBP One to allow aliens to sched-  
21 ule interviews at land ports of entry, how many aliens have  
22 scheduled interviews at land ports of entry using CBP  
23 One, the nationalities of such aliens, and the stated final  
24 destinations of such aliens within the United States, if  
25 any.



1 **SEC. 123. REPORT ON MEXICAN DRUG CARTELS.**

2 Not later than 60 days after the date of the enact-  
3 ment of this Act, Congress shall commission a report that  
4 contains the following:

5 (1) A national strategy to address Mexican  
6 drug cartels, and a determination regarding whether  
7 there should be a designation established to address  
8 such cartels.

9 (2) Information relating to actions by such car-  
10 tels that causes harm to the United States.

11 **SEC. 124. GAO STUDY ON COSTS INCURRED BY STATES TO**  
12 **SECURE THE SOUTHWEST BORDER.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the  
14 date of the enactment of this Act, the Comptroller General  
15 of the United States shall conduct a study to examine the  
16 costs incurred by individual States as a result of actions  
17 taken by such States in support of the Federal mission  
18 to secure the southwest border, and the feasibility of a  
19 program to reimburse such States for such costs.

20 (b) CONTENTS.—The study required under sub-  
21 section (a) shall include consideration of the following:

22 (1) Actions taken by the Department of Home-  
23 land Security that have contributed to costs de-  
24 scribed in such subsection incurred by States to se-  
25 cure the border in the absence of Federal action, in-  
26 cluding the termination of the Migrant Protection

1       Protocols and cancellation of border wall construc-  
2       tion.

3               (2) Actions taken by individual States along the  
4       southwest border to secure their borders, and the  
5       costs associated with such actions.

6               (3) The feasibility of a program within the De-  
7       partment of Homeland Security to reimburse States  
8       for the costs incurred in support of the Federal mis-  
9       sion to secure the southwest border.

10 **SEC. 125. REPORT BY INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE DE-**  
11 **PARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.**

12       (a) REPORT.—Not later than one year after the date  
13 of the enactment of this Act and annually thereafter for  
14 five years, the Inspector General of the Department of  
15 Homeland Security shall submit to the Committee on  
16 Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and  
17 the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental  
18 Affairs of the Senate a report examining the economic and  
19 security impact of mass migration to municipalities and  
20 States along the southwest border. Such report shall in-  
21 clude information regarding costs incurred by the fol-  
22 lowing:

23               (1) State and local law enforcement to secure  
24       the southwest border.

1           (2) Public school districts to educate students  
2           who are aliens unlawfully present in the United  
3           States.

4           (3) Healthcare providers to provide care to  
5           aliens unlawfully present in the United States who  
6           have not paid for such care.

7           (4) Farmers and ranchers due to migration im-  
8           pacts to their properties.

9           (b) CONSULTATION.—To produce the report required  
10          under subsection (a), the Inspector General of the Depart-  
11          ment of Homeland Security shall consult with the individ-  
12          uals and representatives of the entities described in para-  
13          graphs (1) through (4) of such subsection.

14       **SEC. 126. OFFSETTING AUTHORIZATIONS OF APPROPRIA-**  
15                               **TIONS.**

16          (a) OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY AND EMERGENCY  
17          MANAGEMENT.—No funds are authorized to be appro-  
18          priated for the Alternatives to Detention Case Manage-  
19          ment Pilot Program or the Office of the Immigration De-  
20          tention Ombudsman for the Office of the Secretary and  
21          Emergency Management of the Department of Homeland  
22          Security.

23          (b) MANAGEMENT DIRECTORATE.—No funds are au-  
24          thorized to be appropriated for electric vehicles or St. Eliz-

1 abeths campus construction for the Management Direc-  
2 torate of the Department of Homeland Security.

3 (c) INTELLIGENCE, ANALYSIS, AND SITUATIONAL  
4 AWARENESS.—There is authorized to be appropriated  
5 \$216,000,000 for Intelligence, Analysis, and Situational  
6 Awareness of the Department of Homeland Security.

7 (d) U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION.—No  
8 funds are authorized to be appropriated for the Shelter  
9 Services Program for U.S. Customs and Border Protec-  
10 tion.

11 **SEC. 127. REPORT TO CONGRESS ON FOREIGN TERRORIST**  
12 **ORGANIZATIONS.**

13 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the  
14 date of the enactment of this Act and annually thereafter  
15 for five years, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall  
16 submit to the Committee on Homeland Security of the  
17 House of Representatives and the Committee on Home-  
18 land Security and Governmental Affairs of the Senate an  
19 assessment of foreign terrorist organizations attempting  
20 to move their members or affiliates into the United States  
21 through the southern, northern, or maritime border.

22 (b) DEFINITION.—In this section, the term “foreign  
23 terrorist organization” means an organization described in  
24 section 219 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8  
25 U.S.C. 1189).

1 **SEC. 128. ASSESSMENT BY INSPECTOR GENERAL OF THE**  
2 **DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY ON**  
3 **THE MITIGATION OF UNMANNED AIRCRAFT**  
4 **SYSTEMS AT THE SOUTHWEST BORDER.**

5 Not later than 90 days after the date of the enact-  
6 ment of this Act, the Inspector General of the Department  
7 of Homeland Security shall submit to the Committee on  
8 Homeland Security of the House of Representatives and  
9 the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental  
10 Affairs of the Senate an assessment of U.S. Customs and  
11 Border Protection's ability to mitigate unmanned aircraft  
12 systems at the southwest border. Such assessment shall  
13 include information regarding any intervention between  
14 January 1, 2021, and the date of the enactment of this  
15 Act, by any Federal agency affecting in any manner U.S.  
16 Customs and Border Protection's authority to so mitigate  
17 such systems.

18 **DIVISION B—IMMIGRATION EN-**  
19 **FORCEMENT AND FOREIGN**  
20 **AFFAIRS**

21 **TITLE I—ASYLUM REFORM AND**  
22 **BORDER PROTECTION**

23 **SEC. 101. SAFE THIRD COUNTRY.**

24 Section 208(a)(2)(A) of the Immigration and Nation-  
25 ality Act (8 U.S.C. 1158(a)(2)(A)) is amended—

1 (1) by striking “if the Attorney General deter-  
2 mines” and inserting “if the Attorney General or the  
3 Secretary of Homeland Security determines—”;

4 (2) by striking “that the alien may be removed”  
5 and inserting the following:

6 “(i) that the alien may be removed”;

7 (3) by striking “, pursuant to a bilateral or  
8 multilateral agreement, to” and inserting “to”;

9 (4) by inserting “or the Secretary, on a case by  
10 case basis,” before “finds that”;

11 (5) by striking the period at the end and insert-  
12 ing “; or”; and

13 (6) by adding at the end the following:

14 “(ii) that the alien entered, attempted to enter,  
15 or arrived in the United States after transiting  
16 through at least one country outside the alien’s  
17 country of citizenship, nationality, or last lawful ha-  
18 bitual residence en route to the United States, un-  
19 less—

20 “(I) the alien demonstrates that he or she  
21 applied for protection from persecution or tor-  
22 ture in at least one country outside the alien’s  
23 country of citizenship, nationality, or last lawful  
24 habitual residence through which the alien  
25 transited en route to the United States, and the

1 alien received a final judgment denying the  
2 alien protection in each country;

3 “(II) the alien demonstrates that he or she  
4 was a victim of a severe form of trafficking in  
5 which a commercial sex act was induced by  
6 force, fraud, or coercion, or in which the person  
7 induced to perform such act was under the age  
8 of 18 years; or in which the trafficking included  
9 the recruitment, harboring, transportation, pro-  
10 vision, or obtaining of a person for labor or  
11 services through the use of force, fraud, or coer-  
12 cion for the purpose of subjection to involuntary  
13 servitude, peonage, debt bondage, or slavery,  
14 and was unable to apply for protection from  
15 persecution in each country through which the  
16 alien transited en route to the United States as  
17 a result of such severe form of trafficking; or

18 “(III) the only countries through which the  
19 alien transited en route to the United States  
20 were, at the time of the transit, not parties to  
21 the 1951 United Nations Convention relating to  
22 the Status of Refugees, the 1967 Protocol Re-  
23 lating to the Status of Refugees, or the United  
24 Nations Convention against Torture and Other

1           Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or  
2           Punishment.”.

3 **SEC. 102. CREDIBLE FEAR INTERVIEWS.**

4           Section 235(b)(1)(B)(v) of the Immigration and Na-  
5 tionality Act (8 U.S.C. 1225(b)(1)(B)(v)) is amended by  
6 striking “there is a significant possibility” and all that fol-  
7 lows, and inserting “, taking into account the credibility  
8 of the statements made by the alien in support of the  
9 alien’s claim, as determined pursuant to section  
10 208(b)(1)(B)(iii), and such other facts as are known to  
11 the officer, the alien more likely than not could establish  
12 eligibility for asylum under section 208, and it is more  
13 likely than not that the statements made by, and on behalf  
14 of, the alien in support of the alien’s claim are true.”.

15 **SEC. 103. CLARIFICATION OF ASYLUM ELIGIBILITY.**

16           (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 208(b)(1)(A) of the Im-  
17 migration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1158(b)(1)(A))  
18 is amended by inserting after “section 101(a)(42)(A)” the  
19 following: “(in accordance with the rules set forth in this  
20 section), and is eligible to apply for asylum under sub-  
21 section (a)”.

22           (b) PLACE OF ARRIVAL.—Section 208(a)(1) of the  
23 Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1158(a)(1))  
24 is amended—



1           (1) by striking “or who arrives in the United  
2 States (whether or not at a designated port of ar-  
3 rival and including an alien who is brought to the  
4 United States after having been interdicted in inter-  
5 national or United States waters),”; and

6           (2) by inserting after “United States” the fol-  
7 lowing: “and has arrived in the United States at a  
8 port of entry (including an alien who is brought to  
9 the United States after having been interdicted in  
10 international or United States waters),”.

11 **SEC. 104. EXCEPTIONS.**

12           Paragraph (2) of section 208(b) of the Immigration  
13 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1158(b)(2)) is amended to  
14 read as follows:

15           “(2) EXCEPTIONS.—

16                   “(A) IN GENERAL.—Paragraph (1) shall  
17 not apply to an alien if the Secretary of Home-  
18 land Security or the Attorney General deter-  
19 mines that—

20                           “(i) the alien ordered, incited, as-  
21 sisted, or otherwise participated in the per-  
22 secution of any person on account of race,  
23 religion, nationality, membership in a par-  
24 ticular social group, or political opinion;

1           “(ii) the alien has been convicted of  
2           any felony under Federal, State, tribal, or  
3           local law;

4           “(iii) the alien has been convicted of  
5           any misdemeanor offense under Federal,  
6           State, tribal, or local law involving—

7                   “(I) the unlawful possession or  
8                   use of an identification document, au-  
9                   thentication feature, or false identi-  
10                  fication document (as those terms and  
11                  phrases are defined in the jurisdiction  
12                  where the conviction occurred), unless  
13                  the alien can establish that the convic-  
14                  tion resulted from circumstances  
15                  showing that—

16                           “(aa) the document or fea-  
17                           ture was presented before board-  
18                           ing a common carrier;

19                           “(bb) the document or fea-  
20                           ture related to the alien’s eligi-  
21                           bility to enter the United States;

22                           “(cc) the alien used the doc-  
23                           ument or feature to depart a  
24                           country wherein the alien has

1                   claimed a fear of persecution;  
2                   and

3                   “(dd) the alien claimed a  
4                   fear of persecution without delay  
5                   upon presenting himself or her-  
6                   self to an immigration officer  
7                   upon arrival at a United States  
8                   port of entry;

9                   “(II) the unlawful receipt of a  
10                  Federal public benefit (as defined in  
11                  section 401(e) of the Personal Re-  
12                  sponsibility and Work Opportunity  
13                  Reconciliation Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C.  
14                  1611(e))), from a Federal entity, or  
15                  the unlawful receipt of similar public  
16                  benefits from a State, tribal, or local  
17                  entity; or

18                  “(III) possession or trafficking of  
19                  a controlled substance or controlled  
20                  substance paraphernalia, as those  
21                  phrases are defined under the law of  
22                  the jurisdiction where the conviction  
23                  occurred, other than a single offense  
24                  involving possession for one’s own use  
25                  of 30 grams or less of marijuana (as

1 marijuana is defined under the law of  
2 the jurisdiction where the conviction  
3 occurred);

4 “(iv) the alien has been convicted of  
5 an offense arising under paragraph (1)(A)  
6 or (2) of section 274(a), or under section  
7 276;

8 “(v) the alien has been convicted of a  
9 Federal, State, tribal, or local crime that  
10 the Attorney General or Secretary of  
11 Homeland Security knows, or has reason  
12 to believe, was committed in support, pro-  
13 motion, or furtherance of the activity of a  
14 criminal street gang (as defined under the  
15 law of the jurisdiction where the conviction  
16 occurred or in section 521(a) of title 18,  
17 United States Code);

18 “(vi) the alien has been convicted of  
19 an offense for driving while intoxicated or  
20 impaired, as those terms are defined under  
21 the law of the jurisdiction where the con-  
22 viction occurred (including a conviction for  
23 driving while under the influence of or im-  
24 paired by alcohol or drugs), without regard  
25 to whether the conviction is classified as a

1           misdemeanor or felony under Federal,  
2           State, tribal, or local law, in which such in-  
3           toxicated or impaired driving was a cause  
4           of serious bodily injury or death of another  
5           person;

6           “(vii) the alien has been convicted of  
7           more than one offense for driving while in-  
8           toxicated or impaired, as those terms are  
9           defined under the law of the jurisdiction  
10          where the conviction occurred (including a  
11          conviction for driving while under the in-  
12          fluence of or impaired by alcohol or drugs),  
13          without regard to whether the conviction is  
14          classified as a misdemeanor or felony  
15          under Federal, State, tribal, or local law;

16          “(viii) the alien has been convicted of  
17          a crime—

18                  “(I) that involves conduct  
19                  amounting to a crime of stalking;

20                  “(II) of child abuse, child ne-  
21                  glect, or child abandonment; or

22                  “(III) that involves conduct  
23                  amounting to a domestic assault or  
24                  battery offense, including—

1                   “(aa) a misdemeanor crime  
2 of domestic violence, as described  
3 in section 921(a)(33) of title 18,  
4 United States Code;

5                   “(bb) a crime of domestic vi-  
6 olence, as described in section  
7 40002(a)(12) of the Violence  
8 Against Women Act of 1994 (34  
9 U.S.C. 12291(a)(12)); or

10                   “(cc) any crime based on  
11 conduct in which the alien har-  
12 assed, coerced, intimidated, vol-  
13 untarily or recklessly used (or  
14 threatened to use) force or vio-  
15 lence against, or inflicted phys-  
16 ical injury or physical pain, how-  
17 ever slight, upon a person—

18                   “(AA) who is a current  
19 or former spouse of the  
20 alien;

21                   “(BB) with whom the  
22 alien shares a child;

23                   “(CC) who is cohabi-  
24 tating with, or who has

1 cohabitated with, the alien  
2 as a spouse;

3 “(DD) who is similarly  
4 situated to a spouse of the  
5 alien under the domestic or  
6 family violence laws of the  
7 jurisdiction where the of-  
8 fense occurred; or

9 “(EE) who is protected  
10 from that alien’s acts under  
11 the domestic or family vio-  
12 lence laws of the United  
13 States or of any State, tribal  
14 government, or unit of local  
15 government;

16 “(ix) the alien has engaged in acts of  
17 battery or extreme cruelty upon a person  
18 and the person—

19 “(I) is a current or former  
20 spouse of the alien;

21 “(II) shares a child with the  
22 alien;

23 “(III) cohabitates or has  
24 cohabitated with the alien as a spouse;

1           “(IV) is similarly situated to a  
2 spouse of the alien under the domestic  
3 or family violence laws of the jurisdic-  
4 tion where the offense occurred; or

5           “(V) is protected from that  
6 alien’s acts under the domestic or  
7 family violence laws of the United  
8 States or of any State, tribal govern-  
9 ment, or unit of local government;

10          “(x) the alien, having been convicted  
11 by a final judgment of a particularly seri-  
12 ous crime, constitutes a danger to the com-  
13 munity of the United States;

14          “(xi) there are serious reasons for be-  
15 lieving that the alien has committed a seri-  
16 ous nonpolitical crime outside the United  
17 States prior to the arrival of the alien in  
18 the United States;

19          “(xii) there are reasonable grounds  
20 for regarding the alien as a danger to the  
21 security of the United States;

22          “(xiii) the alien is described in sub-  
23 clause (I), (II), (III), (IV), or (VI) of sec-  
24 tion 212(a)(3)(B)(i) or section  
25 237(a)(4)(B) (relating to terrorist activ-



1                   ity), unless, in the case only of an alien in-  
2                   admissible under subclause (IV) of section  
3                   212(a)(3)(B)(i), the Secretary of Home-  
4                   land Security or the Attorney General de-  
5                   termines, in the Secretary's or the Attor-  
6                   ney General's discretion, that there are not  
7                   reasonable grounds for regarding the alien  
8                   as a danger to the security of the United  
9                   States;

10                   “(xiv) the alien was firmly resettled in  
11                   another country prior to arriving in the  
12                   United States; or

13                   “(xv) there are reasonable grounds for  
14                   concluding the alien could avoid persecu-  
15                   tion by relocating to another part of the  
16                   alien's country of nationality or, in the  
17                   case of an alien having no nationality, an-  
18                   other part of the alien's country of last ha-  
19                   bitual residence.

20                   “(B) SPECIAL RULES.—

21                   “(i) PARTICULARLY SERIOUS CRIME;  
22                   SERIOUS NONPOLITICAL CRIME OUTSIDE  
23                   THE UNITED STATES.—

24                   “(I) IN GENERAL.—For purposes  
25                   of subparagraph (A)(x), the Attorney

1 General or Secretary of Homeland Se-  
2 curity, in their discretion, may deter-  
3 mine that a conviction constitutes a  
4 particularly serious crime based on—

5 “(aa) the nature of the con-  
6 viction;

7 “(bb) the type of sentence  
8 imposed; or

9 “(cc) the circumstances and  
10 underlying facts of the convic-  
11 tion.

12 “(II) DETERMINATION.—In mak-  
13 ing a determination under subclause  
14 (I), the Attorney General or Secretary  
15 of Homeland Security may consider  
16 all reliable information and is not lim-  
17 ited to facts found by the criminal  
18 court or provided in the underlying  
19 record of conviction.

20 “(III) TREATMENT OF FELO-  
21 NIES.—In making a determination  
22 under subclause (I), an alien who has  
23 been convicted of a felony (as defined  
24 under this section) or an aggravated  
25 felony (as defined under section

1 101(a)(43)), shall be considered to  
2 have been convicted of a particularly  
3 serious crime.

4 “(IV) INTERPOL RED NOTICE.—  
5 In making a determination under sub-  
6 paragraph (A)(xi), an Interpol Red  
7 Notice may constitute reliable evi-  
8 dence that the alien has committed a  
9 serious nonpolitical crime outside the  
10 United States.

11 “(ii) CRIMES AND EXCEPTIONS.—

12 “(I) DRIVING WHILE INTOXI-  
13 CATED OR IMPAIRED.—A finding  
14 under subparagraph (A)(vi) does not  
15 require the Attorney General or Sec-  
16 retary of Homeland Security to find  
17 the first conviction for driving while  
18 intoxicated or impaired (including a  
19 conviction for driving while under the  
20 influence of or impaired by alcohol or  
21 drugs) as a predicate offense. The At-  
22 torney General or Secretary of Home-  
23 land Security need only make a fac-  
24 tual determination that the alien pre-  
25 viously was convicted for driving while

1 intoxicated or impaired as those terms  
2 are defined under the jurisdiction  
3 where the conviction occurred (includ-  
4 ing a conviction for driving while  
5 under the influence of or impaired by  
6 alcohol or drugs).

7 “(II) STALKING AND OTHER  
8 CRIMES.—In making a determination  
9 under subparagraph (A)(viii), includ-  
10 ing determining the existence of a do-  
11 mestic relationship between the alien  
12 and the victim, the underlying conduct  
13 of the crime may be considered, and  
14 the Attorney General or Secretary of  
15 Homeland Security is not limited to  
16 facts found by the criminal court or  
17 provided in the underlying record of  
18 conviction.

19 “(III) BATTERY OR EXTREME  
20 CRUELTY.—In making a determina-  
21 tion under subparagraph (A)(ix), the  
22 phrase ‘battery or extreme cruelty’ in-  
23 cludes—

24 “(aa) any act or threatened  
25 act of violence, including any

1 forceful detention, which results  
2 or threatens to result in physical  
3 or mental injury;

4 “(bb) psychological or sexual  
5 abuse or exploitation, including  
6 rape, molestation, incest, or  
7 forced prostitution, shall be con-  
8 sidered acts of violence; and

9 “(cc) other abusive acts, in-  
10 cluding acts that, in and of them-  
11 selves, may not initially appear  
12 violent, but that are a part of an  
13 overall pattern of violence.

14 “(IV) EXCEPTION FOR VICTIMS  
15 OF DOMESTIC VIOLENCE.—An alien  
16 who was convicted of an offense de-  
17 scribed in clause (viii) or (ix) of sub-  
18 paragraph (A) is not ineligible for  
19 asylum on that basis if the alien satis-  
20 fies the criteria under section  
21 237(a)(7)(A).

22 “(C) SPECIFIC CIRCUMSTANCES.—Para-  
23 graph (1) shall not apply to an alien whose  
24 claim is based on—

1           “(i) personal animus or retribution,  
2           including personal animus in which the al-  
3           leged persecutor has not targeted, or mani-  
4           fested an animus against, other members  
5           of an alleged particular social group in ad-  
6           dition to the member who has raised the  
7           claim at issue;

8           “(ii) the applicant’s generalized dis-  
9           approval of, disagreement with, or opposi-  
10          tion to criminal, terrorist, gang, guerilla,  
11          or other non-state organizations absent ex-  
12          pressive behavior in furtherance of a dis-  
13          crete cause against such organizations re-  
14          lated to control of a State or expressive be-  
15          havior that is antithetical to the State or  
16          a legal unit of the State;

17          “(iii) the applicant’s resistance to re-  
18          cruitment or coercion by guerrilla, crimi-  
19          nal, gang, terrorist, or other non-state or-  
20          ganizations;

21          “(iv) the targeting of the applicant for  
22          criminal activity for financial gain based  
23          on wealth or affluence or perceptions of  
24          wealth or affluence;

1 “(v) the applicant’s criminal activity;

2 or

3 “(vi) the applicant’s perceived, past or  
4 present, gang affiliation.

5 “(D) DEFINITIONS AND CLARIFICA-  
6 TIONS.—

7 “(i) DEFINITIONS.—For purposes of  
8 this paragraph:

9 “(I) FELONY.—The term ‘felony’  
10 means—

11 “(aa) any crime defined as a  
12 felony by the relevant jurisdiction  
13 (Federal, State, tribal, or local)  
14 of conviction; or

15 “(bb) any crime punishable  
16 by more than one year of impris-  
17 onment.

18 “(II) MISDEMEANOR.—The term  
19 ‘misdemeanor’ means—

20 “(aa) any crime defined as a  
21 misdemeanor by the relevant ju-  
22 risdiction (Federal, State, tribal,  
23 or local) of conviction; or

1                   “(bb) any crime not punish-  
2                   able by more than one year of  
3                   imprisonment.

4                   “(ii) CLARIFICATIONS.—

5                   “(I) CONSTRUCTION.—For pur-  
6                   poses of this paragraph, whether any  
7                   activity or conviction also may con-  
8                   stitute a basis for removal is immate-  
9                   rial to a determination of asylum eli-  
10                  gibility.

11                  “(II) ATTEMPT, CONSPIRACY, OR  
12                  SOLICITATION.—For purposes of this  
13                  paragraph, all references to a criminal  
14                  offense or criminal conviction shall be  
15                  deemed to include any attempt, con-  
16                  spiracy, or solicitation to commit the  
17                  offense or any other inchoate form of  
18                  the offense.

19                  “(III) EFFECT OF CERTAIN OR-  
20                  DERS.—

21                  “(aa) IN GENERAL.—No  
22                  order vacating a conviction,  
23                  modifying a sentence, clarifying a  
24                  sentence, or otherwise altering a  
25                  conviction or sentence shall have



1 any effect under this paragraph  
2 unless the Attorney General or  
3 Secretary of Homeland Security  
4 determines that—

5 “(AA) the court issuing  
6 the order had jurisdiction  
7 and authority to do so; and

8 “(BB) the order was  
9 not entered for rehabilitative  
10 purposes or for purposes of  
11 ameliorating the immigra-  
12 tion consequences of the  
13 conviction or sentence.

14 “(bb) AMELIORATING IMMI-  
15 GRATION CONSEQUENCES.—For  
16 purposes of item (aa)(BB), the  
17 order shall be presumed to be for  
18 the purpose of ameliorating im-  
19 migration consequences if—

20 “(AA) the order was  
21 entered after the initiation  
22 of any proceeding to remove  
23 the alien from the United  
24 States; or

1                   “(BB) the alien moved  
2                   for the order more than one  
3                   year after the date of the  
4                   original order of conviction  
5                   or sentencing, whichever is  
6                   later.

7                   “(cc) AUTHORITY OF IMMI-  
8                   GRATION JUDGE.—An immigra-  
9                   tion judge is not limited to con-  
10                  sideration only of material in-  
11                  cluded in any order vacating a  
12                  conviction, modifying a sentence,  
13                  or clarifying a sentence to deter-  
14                  mine whether such order should  
15                  be given any effect under this  
16                  paragraph, but may consider  
17                  such additional information as  
18                  the immigration judge determines  
19                  appropriate.

20                  “(E) ADDITIONAL LIMITATIONS.—The  
21                  Secretary of Homeland Security or the Attorney  
22                  General may by regulation establish additional  
23                  limitations and conditions, consistent with this  
24                  section, under which an alien shall be ineligible  
25                  for asylum under paragraph (1).

1           “(F) NO JUDICIAL REVIEW.—There shall  
2           be no judicial review of a determination of the  
3           Secretary of Homeland Security or the Attorney  
4           General under subparagraph (A)(xiii).”.

5 **SEC. 105. EMPLOYMENT AUTHORIZATION.**

6           Paragraph (2) of section 208(d) of the Immigration  
7           and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1158(d)) is amended to  
8           read as follows:

9           “(2) EMPLOYMENT AUTHORIZATION.—

10           “(A) AUTHORIZATION PERMITTED.—An  
11           applicant for asylum is not entitled to employ-  
12           ment authorization, but such authorization may  
13           be provided under regulation by the Secretary  
14           of Homeland Security. An applicant who is not  
15           otherwise eligible for employment authorization  
16           shall not be granted such authorization prior to  
17           the date that is 180 days after the date of filing  
18           of the application for asylum.

19           “(B) TERMINATION.—Each grant of em-  
20           ployment authorization under subparagraph  
21           (A), and any renewal or extension thereof, shall  
22           be valid for a period of 6 months, except that  
23           such authorization, renewal, or extension shall  
24           terminate prior to the end of such 6 month pe-  
25           riod as follows:

1                   “(i) Immediately following the denial  
2                   of an asylum application by an asylum offi-  
3                   cer, unless the case is referred to an immi-  
4                   gration judge.

5                   “(ii) 30 days after the date on which  
6                   an immigration judge denies an asylum ap-  
7                   plication, unless the alien timely appeals to  
8                   the Board of Immigration Appeals.

9                   “(iii) Immediately following the denial  
10                  by the Board of Immigration Appeals of an  
11                  appeal of a denial of an asylum applica-  
12                  tion.

13                  “(C) RENEWAL.—The Secretary of Home-  
14                  land Security may not grant, renew, or extend  
15                  employment authorization to an alien if the  
16                  alien was previously granted employment au-  
17                  thorization under subparagraph (A), and the  
18                  employment authorization was terminated pur-  
19                  suant to a circumstance described in subpara-  
20                  graph (B)(i), (ii), or (iii), unless a Federal  
21                  court of appeals remands the alien’s case to the  
22                  Board of Immigration Appeals.

23                  “(D) INELIGIBILITY.—The Secretary of  
24                  Homeland Security may not grant employment

1 authorization to an alien under this paragraph  
2 if the alien—

3 “(i) is ineligible for asylum under sub-  
4 section (b)(2)(A); or

5 “(ii) entered or attempted to enter the  
6 United States at a place and time other  
7 than lawfully through a United States port  
8 of entry.”.

9 **SEC. 106. ASYLUM FEES.**

10 Paragraph (3) of section 208(d) of the Immigration  
11 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1158(d)) is amended to  
12 read as follows:

13 “(3) FEES.—

14 “(A) APPLICATION FEE.—A fee of not less  
15 than \$50 for each application for asylum shall  
16 be imposed. Such fee shall not exceed the cost  
17 of adjudicating the application. Such fee shall  
18 not apply to an unaccompanied alien child who  
19 files an asylum application in proceedings under  
20 section 240.

21 “(B) EMPLOYMENT AUTHORIZATION.—A  
22 fee may also be imposed for the consideration  
23 of an application for employment authorization  
24 under this section and for adjustment of status

1 under section 209(b). Such a fee shall not ex-  
2 ceed the cost of adjudicating the application.

3 “(C) PAYMENT.—Fees under this para-  
4 graph may be assessed and paid over a period  
5 of time or by installments.

6 “(D) RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.—Nothing  
7 in this paragraph shall be construed to limit the  
8 authority of the Attorney General or Secretary  
9 of Homeland Security to set adjudication and  
10 naturalization fees in accordance with section  
11 286(m).”.

12 **SEC. 107. RULES FOR DETERMINING ASYLUM ELIGIBILITY.**

13 Section 208 of the Immigration and Nationality Act  
14 (8 U.S.C. 1158) is amended by adding at the end the fol-  
15 lowing:

16 “(f) RULES FOR DETERMINING ASYLUM ELIGI-  
17 BILITY.—In making a determination under subsection  
18 (b)(1)(A) with respect to whether an alien is a refugee  
19 within the meaning of section 101(a)(42)(A), the following  
20 shall apply:

21 “(1) PARTICULAR SOCIAL GROUP.—The Sec-  
22 retary of Homeland Security or the Attorney Gen-  
23 eral shall not determine that an alien is a member  
24 of a particular social group unless the alien articu-  
25 lates on the record, or provides a basis on the record

1 for determining, the definition and boundaries of the  
2 alleged particular social group, establishes that the  
3 particular social group exists independently from the  
4 alleged persecution, and establishes that the alien’s  
5 claim of membership in a particular social group  
6 does not involve—

7 “(A) past or present criminal activity or  
8 association (including gang membership);

9 “(B) presence in a country with general-  
10 ized violence or a high crime rate;

11 “(C) being the subject of a recruitment ef-  
12 fort by criminal, terrorist, or persecutory  
13 groups;

14 “(D) the targeting of the applicant for  
15 criminal activity for financial gain based on per-  
16 ceptions of wealth or affluence;

17 “(E) interpersonal disputes of which gov-  
18 ernmental authorities in the relevant society or  
19 region were unaware or uninvolved;

20 “(F) private criminal acts of which govern-  
21 mental authorities in the relevant society or re-  
22 gion were unaware or uninvolved;

23 “(G) past or present terrorist activity or  
24 association;

1           “(H) past or present persecutory activity  
2           or association; or

3           “(I) status as an alien returning from the  
4           United States.

5           “(2) POLITICAL OPINION.—The Secretary of  
6           Homeland Security or the Attorney General may not  
7           determine that an alien holds a political opinion with  
8           respect to which the alien is subject to persecution  
9           if the political opinion is constituted solely by gener-  
10          alized disapproval of, disagreement with, or opposi-  
11          tion to criminal, terrorist, gang, guerilla, or other  
12          non-state organizations and does not include expres-  
13          sive behavior in furtherance of a cause against such  
14          organizations related to efforts by the State to con-  
15          trol such organizations or behavior that is antithet-  
16          ical to or otherwise opposes the ruling legal entity of  
17          the State or a unit thereof.

18          “(3) PERSECUTION.—The Secretary of Home-  
19          land Security or the Attorney General may not de-  
20          termine that an alien has been subject to persecution  
21          or has a well-founded fear of persecution based only  
22          on—

23                 “(A) the existence of laws or government  
24                 policies that are unenforced or infrequently en-  
25                 forced, unless there is credible evidence that



1 such a law or policy has been or would be ap-  
2 plied to the applicant personally; or

3 “(B) the conduct of rogue foreign govern-  
4 ment officials acting outside the scope of their  
5 official capacity.

6 “(4) DISCRETIONARY DETERMINATION.—

7 “(A) ADVERSE DISCRETIONARY FAC-  
8 TORS.—The Secretary of Homeland Security or  
9 the Attorney General may only grant asylum to  
10 an alien if the alien establishes that he or she  
11 warrants a favorable exercise of discretion. In  
12 making such a determination, the Attorney  
13 General or Secretary of Homeland Security  
14 shall consider, if applicable, an alien’s use of  
15 fraudulent documents to enter the United  
16 States, unless the alien arrived in the United  
17 States by air, sea, or land directly from the ap-  
18 plicant’s home country without transiting  
19 through any other country.

20 “(B) FAVORABLE EXERCISE OF DISCRE-  
21 TION NOT PERMITTED.—Except as provided in  
22 subparagraph (C), the Attorney General or Sec-  
23 retary of Homeland Security shall not favorably  
24 exercise discretion under this section for any  
25 alien who—

1           “(i) has accrued more than one year  
2 of unlawful presence in the United States,  
3 as defined in sections 212(a)(9)(B)(ii) and  
4 (iii), prior to filing an application for asy-  
5 lum;

6           “(ii) at the time the asylum applica-  
7 tion is filed with the immigration court or  
8 is referred from the Department of Home-  
9 land Security, has—

10           “(I) failed to timely file (or time-  
11 ly file a request for an extension of  
12 time to file) any required Federal,  
13 State, or local income tax returns;

14           “(II) failed to satisfy any out-  
15 standing Federal, State, or local tax  
16 obligations; or

17           “(III) income that would result  
18 in tax liability under section 1 of the  
19 Internal Revenue Code of 1986 and  
20 that was not reported to the Internal  
21 Revenue Service;

22           “(iii) has had two or more prior asy-  
23 lum applications denied for any reason;

1 “(iv) has withdrawn a prior asylum  
2 application with prejudice or been found to  
3 have abandoned a prior asylum application;

4 “(v) failed to attend an interview re-  
5 garding his or her asylum application with  
6 the Department of Homeland Security, un-  
7 less the alien shows by a preponderance of  
8 the evidence that—

9 “(I) exceptional circumstances  
10 prevented the alien from attending the  
11 interview; or

12 “(II) the interview notice was not  
13 mailed to the last address provided by  
14 the alien or the alien’s representative  
15 and neither the alien nor the alien’s  
16 representative received notice of the  
17 interview; or

18 “(vi) was subject to a final order of  
19 removal, deportation, or exclusion and did  
20 not file a motion to reopen to seek asylum  
21 based on changed country conditions with-  
22 in one year of the change in country condi-  
23 tions.

24 “(C) EXCEPTIONS.—If one or more of the  
25 adverse discretionary factors set forth in sub-

1 paragraph (B) are present, the Attorney Gen-  
2 eral or the Secretary, may, notwithstanding  
3 such subparagraph (B), favorably exercise dis-  
4 cretion under section 208—

5 “(i) in extraordinary circumstances,  
6 such as those involving national security or  
7 foreign policy considerations; or

8 “(ii) if the alien, by clear and con-  
9 vincing evidence, demonstrates that the de-  
10 nial of the application for asylum would re-  
11 sult in exceptional and extremely unusual  
12 hardship to the alien.

13 “(5) LIMITATION.—If the Secretary or the At-  
14 torney General determines that an alien fails to sat-  
15 isfy the requirement under paragraph (1), the alien  
16 may not be granted asylum based on membership in  
17 a particular social group, and may not appeal the  
18 determination of the Secretary or Attorney General,  
19 as applicable. A determination under this paragraph  
20 shall not serve as the basis for any motion to reopen  
21 or reconsider an application for asylum or with-  
22 holding of removal for any reason, including a claim  
23 of ineffective assistance of counsel, unless the alien  
24 complies with the procedural requirements for such  
25 a motion and demonstrates that counsel’s failure to

1 define, or provide a basis for defining, a formulation  
2 of a particular social group was both not a strategic  
3 choice and constituted egregious conduct.

4 “(6) STEREOTYPES.—Evidence offered in sup-  
5 port of an application for asylum that promotes cul-  
6 tural stereotypes about a country, its inhabitants, or  
7 an alleged persecutor, including stereotypes based on  
8 race, religion, nationality, or gender, shall not be ad-  
9 missible in adjudicating that application, except that  
10 evidence that an alleged persecutor holds  
11 stereotypical views of the applicant shall be admis-  
12 sible.

13 “(7) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

14 “(A) The term ‘membership in a particular  
15 social group’ means membership in a group  
16 that is—

17 “(i) composed of members who share  
18 a common immutable characteristic;

19 “(ii) defined with particularity; and

20 “(iii) socially distinct within the soci-  
21 ety in question.

22 “(B) The term ‘political opinion’ means an  
23 ideal or conviction in support of the furtherance  
24 of a discrete cause related to political control of  
25 a state or a unit thereof.

1           “(C) The term ‘persecution’ means the in-  
2           fliction of a severe level of harm constituting an  
3           exigent threat by the government of a country  
4           or by persons or an organization that the gov-  
5           ernment was unable or unwilling to control.  
6           Such term does not include—

7                   “(i) generalized harm or violence that  
8                   arises out of civil, criminal, or military  
9                   strife in a country;

10                   “(ii) all treatment that the United  
11                   States regards as unfair, offensive, unjust,  
12                   unlawful, or unconstitutional;

13                   “(iii) intermittent harassment, includ-  
14                   ing brief detentions;

15                   “(iv) threats with no actual effort to  
16                   carry out the threats, except that particu-  
17                   larized threats of severe harm of an imme-  
18                   diate and menacing nature made by an  
19                   identified entity may constitute persecu-  
20                   tion; or

21                   “(v) non-severe economic harm or  
22                   property damage.”.

1 **SEC. 108. FIRM RESETTLEMENT.**

2 Section 208 of the Immigration and Nationality Act  
3 (8 U.S.C. 1158), as amended by this title, is further  
4 amended by adding at the end the following:

5 “(g) FIRM RESETTLEMENT.—In determining wheth-  
6 er an alien was firmly resettled in another country prior  
7 to arriving in the United States under subsection  
8 (b)(2)(A)(xiv), the following shall apply:

9 “(1) IN GENERAL.—An alien shall be consid-  
10 ered to have firmly resettled in another country if,  
11 after the events giving rise to the alien’s asylum  
12 claim—

13 “(A) the alien resided in a country through  
14 which the alien transited prior to arriving in or  
15 entering the United States and—

16 “(i) received or was eligible for any  
17 permanent legal immigration status in that  
18 country;

19 “(ii) resided in such a country with  
20 any non-permanent but indefinitely renew-  
21 able legal immigration status (including  
22 asylee, refugee, or similar status, but ex-  
23 cluding status of a tourist); or

24 “(iii) resided in such a country and  
25 could have applied for and obtained an im-  
26 migration status described in clause (ii);

1           “(B) the alien physically resided volun-  
2           tarily, and without continuing to suffer persecu-  
3           tion or torture, in any one country for one year  
4           or more after departing his country of nation-  
5           ality or last habitual residence and prior to ar-  
6           rival in or entry into the United States, except  
7           for any time spent in Mexico by an alien who  
8           is not a native or citizen of Mexico solely as a  
9           direct result of being returned to Mexico pursu-  
10          ant to section 235(b)(3) or of being subject to  
11          metering; or

12          “(C) the alien is a citizen of a country  
13          other than the country in which the alien al-  
14          leges a fear of persecution, or was a citizen of  
15          such a country in the case of an alien who re-  
16          nounces such citizenship, and the alien was  
17          present in that country after departing his  
18          country of nationality or last habitual residence  
19          and prior to arrival in or entry into the United  
20          States.

21          “(2) BURDEN OF PROOF.—If an immigration  
22          judge determines that an alien has firmly resettled  
23          in another country under paragraph (1), the alien  
24          shall bear the burden of proving the bar does not  
25          apply.



1           “(3) FIRM RESETTLEMENT OF PARENT.—An  
2           alien shall be presumed to have been firmly resettled  
3           in another country if the alien’s parent was firmly  
4           resettled in another country, the parent’s resettlement  
5           occurred before the alien turned 18 years of  
6           age, and the alien resided with such parent at the  
7           time of the firm resettlement, unless the alien estab-  
8           lishes that he or she could not have derived any per-  
9           manent legal immigration status or any non-perma-  
10          nent but indefinitely renewable legal immigration  
11          status (including asylum, refugee, or similar status,  
12          but excluding status of a tourist) from the alien’s  
13          parent.”.

14 **SEC. 109. NOTICE CONCERNING FRIVOLOUS ASYLUM AP-**  
15 **PLICATIONS.**

16          (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 208(d)(4) of the Immi-  
17          gration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1158(d)(4)) is  
18          amended—

19                (1) in the matter preceding subparagraph (A),  
20                by inserting “the Secretary of Homeland Security  
21                or” before “the Attorney General”;

22                (2) in subparagraph (A), by striking “and of  
23                the consequences, under paragraph (6), of knowingly  
24                filing a frivolous application for asylum; and” and  
25                inserting a semicolon;

1 (3) in subparagraph (B), by striking the period  
2 and inserting “; and”; and

3 (4) by adding at the end the following:

4 “(C) ensure that a written warning ap-  
5 pears on the asylum application advising the  
6 alien of the consequences of filing a frivolous  
7 application and serving as notice to the alien of  
8 the consequence of filing a frivolous applica-  
9 tion.”.

10 (b) CONFORMING AMENDMENT.—Section 208(d)(6)  
11 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.  
12 1158(d)(6)) is amended by striking “If the” and all that  
13 follows and inserting:

14 “(A) IN GENERAL.—If the Secretary of  
15 Homeland Security or the Attorney General de-  
16 termines that an alien has knowingly made a  
17 frivolous application for asylum and the alien  
18 has received the notice under paragraph (4)(C),  
19 the alien shall be permanently ineligible for any  
20 benefits under this chapter, effective as the date  
21 of the final determination of such an applica-  
22 tion.

23 “(B) CRITERIA.—An application is frivo-  
24 lous if the Secretary of Homeland Security or

1 the Attorney General determines, consistent  
2 with subparagraph (C), that—

3 “(i) it is so insufficient in substance  
4 that it is clear that the applicant know-  
5 ingly filed the application solely or in part  
6 to delay removal from the United States,  
7 to seek employment authorization as an  
8 applicant for asylum pursuant to regula-  
9 tions issued pursuant to paragraph (2), or  
10 to seek issuance of a Notice to Appear in  
11 order to pursue Cancellation of Removal  
12 under section 240A(b); or

13 “(ii) any of the material elements are  
14 knowingly fabricated.

15 “(C) SUFFICIENT OPPORTUNITY TO CLAR-  
16 IFY.—In determining that an application is friv-  
17 olous, the Secretary or the Attorney General,  
18 must be satisfied that the applicant, during the  
19 course of the proceedings, has had sufficient op-  
20 portunity to clarify any discrepancies or implau-  
21 sible aspects of the claim.

22 “(D) WITHHOLDING OF REMOVAL NOT  
23 PRECLUDED.—For purposes of this section, a  
24 finding that an alien filed a frivolous asylum  
25 application shall not preclude the alien from

1 seeking withholding of removal under section  
2 241(b)(3) or protection pursuant to the Con-  
3 vention Against Torture.”.

4 **SEC. 110. TECHNICAL AMENDMENTS.**

5 Section 208 of the Immigration and Nationality Act  
6 (8 U.S.C. 1158) is amended—

7 (1) in subsection (a)—

8 (A) in paragraph (2)(D), by inserting  
9 “Secretary of Homeland Security or the” before  
10 “Attorney General”; and

11 (B) in paragraph (3), by inserting “Sec-  
12 retary of Homeland Security or the” before  
13 “Attorney General”;

14 (2) in subsection (c)—

15 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “Attor-  
16 ney General” each place such term appears and  
17 inserting “Secretary of Homeland Security”;

18 (B) in paragraph (2), in the matter pre-  
19 ceding subparagraph (A), by inserting “Sec-  
20 retary of Homeland Security or the” before  
21 “Attorney General”; and

22 (C) in paragraph (3), by inserting “Sec-  
23 retary of Homeland Security or the” before  
24 “Attorney General”; and

25 (3) in subsection (d)—

1 (A) in paragraph (1), by inserting “Sec-  
2 retary of Homeland Security or the” before  
3 “Attorney General” each place such term ap-  
4 pears; and

5 (B) in paragraph (5)—

6 (i) in subparagraph (A), by striking  
7 “Attorney General” and inserting “Sec-  
8 retary of Homeland Security”; and

9 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by inserting  
10 “Secretary of Homeland Security or the”  
11 before “Attorney General”.

12 **SEC. 111. REQUIREMENT FOR PROCEDURES RELATING TO**  
13 **CERTAIN ASYLUM APPLICATIONS.**

14 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Not later than 30 days after the  
15 date of the enactment of this Act, the Attorney General  
16 shall establish procedures to expedite the adjudication of  
17 asylum applications for aliens—

18 (1) who are subject to removal proceedings  
19 under section 240 of the Immigration and Nation-  
20 ality Act (8 U.S.C. 1229a); and

21 (2) who are nationals of a Western Hemisphere  
22 country sanctioned by the United States, as de-  
23 scribed in subsection (b), as of January 1, 2024.

24 (b) **WESTERN HEMISPHERE COUNTRY SANCTIONED**  
25 **BY THE UNITED STATES DESCRIBED.**—Subsection (a)

1 shall apply only to an asylum application filed by an alien  
2 who is a national of a Western Hemisphere country sub-  
3 ject to sanctions pursuant to—

4 (1) the Cuban Liberty and Democratic Soli-  
5 darity (LIBERTAD) Act of 1996 (22 U.S.C. 6021  
6 note);

7 (2) the Reinforcing Nicaragua’s Adherence to  
8 Conditions for Electoral Reform Act of 2021 or the  
9 RENACER Act (50 U.S.C. 1701 note); or

10 (3) Executive Order 13692 (80 Fed. Reg.  
11 12747; declaring a national emergency with respect  
12 to the situation in Venezuela).

13 (c) APPLICABILITY.—This section shall only apply to  
14 an alien who files an application for asylum after the date  
15 of the enactment of this Act.

## 16 **TITLE II—BORDER SAFETY AND** 17 **MIGRANT PROTECTION**

### 18 **SEC. 201. INSPECTION OF APPLICANTS FOR ADMISSION.**

19 Section 235 of the Immigration and Nationality Act  
20 (8 U.S.C. 1225) is amended—

21 (1) in subsection (b)—

22 (A) in paragraph (1)—

23 (i) in subparagraph (A)—

24 (I) in clauses (i) and (ii), by  
25 striking “section 212(a)(6)(C)” in-

1                   serting “subparagraph (A) or (C) of  
2                   section 212(a)(6)”; and

3                   (II) by adding at the end the fol-  
4                   lowing:

5                   “(iv) INELIGIBILITY FOR PAROLE.—  
6                   An alien described in clause (i) or (ii) shall  
7                   not be eligible for parole except as ex-  
8                   pressly authorized pursuant to section  
9                   212(d)(5), or for parole or release pursu-  
10                  ant to section 236(a).”; and

11                  (ii) in subparagraph (B)—

12                   (I) in clause (ii), by striking  
13                   “asylum.” and inserting “asylum and  
14                   shall not be released (including pursu-  
15                   ant to parole or release pursuant to  
16                   section 236(a) but excluding as ex-  
17                   pressly authorized pursuant to section  
18                   212(d)(5)) other than to be removed  
19                   or returned to a country as described  
20                   in paragraph (3).”; and

21                  (II) in clause (iii)(IV)—

22                   (aa) in the header by strik-  
23                   ing “DETENTION” and inserting  
24                   “DETENTION, RETURN, OR RE-  
25                   MOVAL”; and

1 (bb) by adding at the end  
2 the following: “The alien shall  
3 not be released (including pursu-  
4 ant to parole or release pursuant  
5 to section 236(a) but excluding  
6 as expressly authorized pursuant  
7 to section 212(d)(5)) other than  
8 to be removed or returned to a  
9 country as described in para-  
10 graph (3).”;

11 (B) in paragraph (2)—

12 (i) in subparagraph (A)—

13 (I) by striking “Subject to sub-  
14 paragraphs (B) and (C),” and insert-  
15 ing “Subject to subparagraph (B) and  
16 paragraph (3),”; and

17 (II) by adding at the end the fol-  
18 lowing: “The alien shall not be re-  
19 leased (including pursuant to parole  
20 or release pursuant to section 236(a)  
21 but excluding as expressly authorized  
22 pursuant to section 212(d)(5)) other  
23 than to be removed or returned to a  
24 country as described in paragraph  
25 (3).”; and



1 (ii) by striking subparagraph (C);  
2 (C) by redesignating paragraph (3) as  
3 paragraph (5); and  
4 (D) by inserting after paragraph (2) the  
5 following:

6 “(3) RETURN TO FOREIGN TERRITORY CONTIG-  
7 UOUS TO THE UNITED STATES.—

8 “(A) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of  
9 Homeland Security may return to a foreign ter-  
10 ritory contiguous to the United States any alien  
11 arriving on land from that territory (whether or  
12 not at a designated port of entry) pending a  
13 proceeding under section 240 or review of a de-  
14 termination under subsection (b)(1)(B)(iii)(III).

15 “(B) MANDATORY RETURN.—If at any  
16 time the Secretary of Homeland Security can-  
17 not—

18 “(i) comply with its obligations to de-  
19 tain an alien as required under clauses (ii)  
20 and (iii)(IV) of subsection (b)(1)(B) and  
21 subsection (b)(2)(A); or

22 “(ii) remove an alien to a country de-  
23 scribed in section 208(a)(2)(A),  
24 the Secretary of Homeland Security shall, with-  
25 out exception, including pursuant to parole or

1 release pursuant to section 236(a) but exclud-  
2 ing as expressly authorized pursuant to section  
3 212(d)(5), return to a foreign territory contig-  
4 uous to the United States any alien arriving on  
5 land from that territory (whether or not at a  
6 designated port of entry) pending a proceeding  
7 under section 240 or review of a determination  
8 under subsection (b)(1)(B)(iii)(III).

9 “(4) ENFORCEMENT BY STATE ATTORNEYS  
10 GENERAL.—The attorney general of a State, or  
11 other authorized State officer, alleging a violation of  
12 the detention, return, or removal requirements under  
13 paragraph (1), (2), or (3) that affects such State or  
14 its residents, may bring an action against the Sec-  
15 retary of Homeland Security on behalf of the resi-  
16 dents of the State in an appropriate United States  
17 district court to obtain appropriate injunctive re-  
18 lief.”; and

19 (2) by adding at the end the following:

20 “(e) AUTHORITY TO PROHIBIT INTRODUCTION OF  
21 CERTAIN ALIENS.—If the Secretary of Homeland Security  
22 determines, in his discretion, that the prohibition of the  
23 introduction of aliens who are inadmissible under subpara-  
24 graph (A) or (C) of section 212(a)(6) or under section  
25 212(a)(7) at an international land or maritime border of

1 the United States is necessary to achieve operational con-  
2 trol (as defined in section 2 of the Secure Fence Act of  
3 2006 (8 U.S.C. 1701 note)) of such border, the Secretary  
4 may prohibit, in whole or in part, the introduction of such  
5 aliens at such border for such period of time as the Sec-  
6 retary determines is necessary for such purpose.”.

7 **SEC. 202. OPERATIONAL DETENTION FACILITIES.**

8 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than September 30,  
9 2024, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall take all  
10 necessary actions to reopen or restore all U.S. Immigra-  
11 tion and Customs Enforcement detention facilities that  
12 were in operation on January 20, 2021, that subsequently  
13 closed or with respect to which the use was altered, re-  
14 duced, or discontinued after January 20, 2021. In car-  
15 rying out the requirement under this subsection, the Sec-  
16 retary may use the authority under section 103(a)(11) of  
17 the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.  
18 1103(a)(11)).

19 (b) SPECIFIC FACILITIES.—The requirement under  
20 subsection (a) shall include at a minimum, reopening, or  
21 restoring, the following facilities:

- 22 (1) Irwin County Detention Center in Georgia.
- 23 (2) C. Carlos Carreiro Immigration Detention  
24 Center in Bristol County, Massachusetts.

1           (3) Etowah County Detention Center in Gads-  
2           den, Alabama.

3           (4) Glades County Detention Center in Moore  
4           Haven, Florida.

5           (5) South Texas Family Residential Center.

6           (c) EXCEPTION.—

7           (1) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in para-  
8           graphs (2) and (3), the Secretary of Homeland Se-  
9           curity is authorized to obtain equivalent capacity for  
10          detention facilities at locations other than those list-  
11          ed in subsection (b).

12          (2) LIMITATION.—The Secretary may not take  
13          action under paragraph (1) unless the capacity ob-  
14          tained would result in a reduction of time and cost  
15          relative to the cost and time otherwise required to  
16          obtain such capacity.

17          (3) SOUTH TEXAS FAMILY RESIDENTIAL CEN-  
18          TER.—The exception under paragraph (1) shall not  
19          apply to the South Texas Family Residential Center.  
20          The Secretary shall take all necessary steps to mod-  
21          ify and operate the South Texas Family Residential  
22          Center in the same manner and capability it was op-  
23          erating on January 20, 2021.

24          (d) PERIODIC REPORT.—Not later than 90 days after  
25          the date of the enactment of this Act, and every 90 days

1 thereafter until September 30, 2027, the Secretary of  
2 Homeland Security shall submit to the appropriate con-  
3 gressional committees a detailed plan for and a status re-  
4 port on—

5 (1) compliance with the deadline under sub-  
6 section (a);

7 (2) the increase in detention capabilities re-  
8 quired by this section—

9 (A) for the 90 day period immediately pre-  
10 ceding the date such report is submitted; and

11 (B) for the period beginning on the first  
12 day of the fiscal year during which the report  
13 is submitted, and ending on the date such re-  
14 port is submitted;

15 (3) the number of detention beds that were  
16 used and the number of available detention beds  
17 that were not used during—

18 (A) the 90 day period immediately pre-  
19 ceding the date such report is submitted; and

20 (B) the period beginning on the first day  
21 of the fiscal year during which the report is  
22 submitted, and ending on the date such report  
23 is submitted;

24 (4) the number of aliens released due to a lack  
25 of available detention beds; and

1           (5) the resources the Department of Homeland  
2       Security needs in order to comply with the require-  
3       ments under this section.

4       (e) NOTIFICATION.—The Secretary of Homeland Se-  
5       curity shall notify Congress, and include with such notifi-  
6       cation a detailed description of the resources the Depart-  
7       ment of Homeland Security needs in order to detain all  
8       aliens whose detention is mandatory or nondiscretionary  
9       under the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.  
10      1101 et seq.)—

11           (1) not later than 5 days after all U.S. Immi-  
12       gration and Customs Enforcement detention facili-  
13       ties reach 90 percent of capacity;

14           (2) not later than 5 days after all U.S. Immi-  
15       gration and Customs Enforcement detention facili-  
16       ties reach 95 percent of capacity; and

17           (3) not later than 5 days after all U.S. Immi-  
18       gration and Customs Enforcement detention facili-  
19       ties reach full capacity.

20       (f) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES.—  
21      In this section, the term “appropriate congressional com-  
22      mittees” means—

23           (1) the Committee on the Judiciary of the  
24       House of Representatives;

1           (2) the Committee on Appropriations of the  
2       House of Representatives;

3           (3) the Committee on the Judiciary of the Sen-  
4       ate; and

5           (4) the Committee on Appropriations of the  
6       Senate.

7       **TITLE III—PREVENTING UNCON-**  
8       **TROLLED MIGRATION FLOWS**  
9       **IN THE WESTERN HEMI-**  
10      **SPHERE**

11      **SEC. 301. UNITED STATES POLICY REGARDING WESTERN**  
12                           **HEMISPHERE COOPERATION ON IMMIGRA-**  
13                           **TION AND ASYLUM.**

14       It is the policy of the United States to enter into  
15      agreements, accords, and memoranda of understanding  
16      with countries in the Western Hemisphere, the purposes  
17      of which are to advance the interests of the United States  
18      by reducing costs associated with illegal immigration and  
19      to protect the human capital, societal traditions, and eco-  
20      nomic growth of other countries in the Western Hemi-  
21      sphere. It is further the policy of the United States to  
22      ensure that humanitarian and development assistance  
23      funding aimed at reducing illegal immigration is not ex-  
24      pended on programs that have not proven to reduce illegal  
25      immigrant flows in the aggregate.

1 **SEC. 302. NEGOTIATIONS BY SECRETARY OF STATE.**

2 (a) AUTHORIZATION TO NEGOTIATE.—The Secretary  
3 of State shall seek to negotiate agreements, accords, and  
4 memoranda of understanding between the United States,  
5 Mexico, Honduras, El Salvador, Guatemala, and other  
6 countries in the Western Hemisphere with respect to co-  
7 operation and burden sharing required for effective re-  
8 gional immigration enforcement, expediting legal claims by  
9 aliens for asylum, and the processing, detention, and repa-  
10 triation of foreign nationals seeking to enter the United  
11 States unlawfully. Such agreements shall be designed to  
12 facilitate a regional approach to immigration enforcement  
13 and shall, at a minimum, provide that—

14 (1) the Government of Mexico authorize and ac-  
15 cept the rapid entrance into Mexico of nationals of  
16 countries other than Mexico who seek asylum in  
17 Mexico, and process the asylum claims of such na-  
18 tionals inside Mexico, in accordance with both do-  
19 mestic law and international treaties and conven-  
20 tions governing the processing of asylum claims;

21 (2) the Government of Mexico authorize and ac-  
22 cept both the rapid entrance into Mexico of all na-  
23 tionals of countries other than Mexico who are ineli-  
24 gible for asylum in Mexico and wish to apply for  
25 asylum in the United States, whether or not at a  
26 port of entry, and the continued presence of such



1 nationals in Mexico while they wait for the adjudica-  
2 tion of their asylum claims to conclude in the United  
3 States;

4 (3) the Government of Mexico commit to pro-  
5 vide the individuals described in paragraphs (1) and  
6 (2) with appropriate humanitarian protections;

7 (4) the Government of Honduras, the Govern-  
8 ment of El Salvador, and the Government of Guate-  
9 mala each authorize and accept the entrance into  
10 the respective countries of nationals of other coun-  
11 tries seeking asylum in the applicable such country  
12 and process such claims in accordance with applica-  
13 ble domestic law and international treaties and con-  
14 ventions governing the processing of asylum claims;

15 (5) the Government of the United States com-  
16 mit to work to accelerate the adjudication of asylum  
17 claims and to conclude removal proceedings in the  
18 wake of asylum adjudications as expeditiously as  
19 possible;

20 (6) the Government of the United States com-  
21 mit to continue to assist the governments of coun-  
22 tries in the Western Hemisphere, such as the Gov-  
23 ernment of Honduras, the Government of El Sal-  
24 vador, and the Government of Guatemala, by sup-

1 porting the enhancement of asylum capacity in those  
2 countries; and

3 (7) the Government of the United States com-  
4 mit to monitoring developments in hemispheric im-  
5 migration trends and regional asylum capabilities to  
6 determine whether additional asylum cooperation  
7 agreements are warranted.

8 (b) NOTIFICATION IN ACCORDANCE WITH CASE-ZA-  
9 BLOCKI ACT.—The Secretary of State shall, in accordance  
10 with section 112b of title 1, United States Code, promptly  
11 inform the relevant congressional committees of each  
12 agreement entered into pursuant to subsection (a). Such  
13 notifications shall be submitted not later than 48 hours  
14 after such agreements are signed.

15 (c) ALIEN DEFINED.—In this section, the term  
16 “alien” has the meaning given such term in section 101  
17 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101).

18 **SEC. 303. MANDATORY BRIEFINGS ON UNITED STATES EF-**  
19 **FORTS TO ADDRESS THE BORDER CRISIS.**

20 (a) BRIEFING REQUIRED.—Not later than 90 days  
21 after the date of the enactment of this Act, and not less  
22 frequently than once every 90 days thereafter until the  
23 date described in subsection (b), the Secretary of State,  
24 or the designee of the Secretary of State, shall provide  
25 to the appropriate congressional committees an in-person

1 briefing on efforts undertaken pursuant to the negotiation  
2 authority provided by section 302 of this title to monitor,  
3 deter, and prevent illegal immigration to the United  
4 States, including by entering into agreements, accords,  
5 and memoranda of understanding with foreign countries  
6 and by using United States foreign assistance to stem the  
7 root causes of migration in the Western Hemisphere.

8 (b) **TERMINATION OF MANDATORY BRIEFING.**—The  
9 date described in this subsection is the date on which the  
10 Secretary of State, in consultation with the heads of other  
11 relevant Federal departments and agencies, determines  
12 and certifies to the appropriate congressional committees  
13 that illegal immigration flows have subsided to a manage-  
14 able rate.

15 (c) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMITTEES DE-**  
16 **FINED.**—In this section, the term “appropriate congres-  
17 sional committees” means the Committee on Foreign Af-  
18 fairs of the House of Representatives and the Committee  
19 on Foreign Relations of the Senate.

20 **TITLE IV—ENSURING UNITED**  
21 **FAMILIES AT THE BORDER**

22 **SEC. 401. CLARIFICATION OF STANDARDS FOR FAMILY DE-**  
23 **TENTION.**

24 (a) **IN GENERAL.**—Section 235 of the William Wil-  
25 berforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization

1 Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232) is amended by adding at  
2 the end the following:

3 “(j) CONSTRUCTION.—

4 “(1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other  
5 provision of law, judicial determination, consent de-  
6 cree, or settlement agreement, the detention of any  
7 alien child who is not an unaccompanied alien child  
8 shall be governed by sections 217, 235, 236, and  
9 241 of the Immigration and Nationality Act (8  
10 U.S.C. 1187, 1225, 1226, and 1231). There is no  
11 presumption that an alien child who is not an unac-  
12 companied alien child should not be detained.

13 “(2) FAMILY DETENTION.—The Secretary of  
14 Homeland Security shall—

15 “(A) maintain the care and custody of an  
16 alien, during the period during which the  
17 charges described in clause (i) are pending,  
18 who—

19 “(i) is charged only with a mis-  
20 demeanor offense under section 275(a) of  
21 the Immigration and Nationality Act (8  
22 U.S.C. 1325(a)); and

23 “(ii) entered the United States with  
24 the alien’s child who has not attained 18  
25 years of age; and

1                   “(B) detain the alien with the alien’s  
2                   child.”.

3           (b) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
4   gress that the amendments in this section to section 235  
5   of the William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection  
6   Reauthorization Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232) are intended  
7   to satisfy the requirements of the Settlement Agreement  
8   in *Flores v. Meese*, No. 85–4544 (C.D. Cal), as approved  
9   by the court on January 28, 1997, with respect to its in-  
10   terpretation in *Flores v. Johnson*, 212 F. Supp. 3d 864  
11   (C.D. Cal. 2015), that the agreement applies to accom-  
12   panied minors.

13           (c) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendment made by  
14   subsection (a) shall take effect on the date of the enact-  
15   ment of this Act and shall apply to all actions that occur  
16   before, on, or after such date.

17           (d) PREEMPTION OF STATE LICENSING REQUIRE-  
18   MENTS.—Notwithstanding any other provision of law, ju-  
19   dicial determination, consent decree, or settlement agree-  
20   ment, no State may require that an immigration detention  
21   facility used to detain children who have not attained 18  
22   years of age, or families consisting of one or more of such  
23   children and the parents or legal guardians of such chil-  
24   dren, that is located in that State, be licensed by the State  
25   or any political subdivision thereof.

1           **TITLE V—PROTECTION OF**  
2                                   **CHILDREN**

3   **SEC. 501. FINDINGS.**

4           Congress makes the following findings:

5                   (1) Implementation of the provisions of the  
6           Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act  
7           of 2008 that govern unaccompanied alien children  
8           has incentivized multiple surges of unaccompanied  
9           alien children arriving at the southwest border in the  
10          years since the bill's enactment.

11                  (2) The provisions of the Trafficking Victims  
12          Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 that govern  
13          unaccompanied alien children treat unaccompanied  
14          alien children from countries that are contiguous to  
15          the United States disparately by swiftly returning  
16          them to their home country absent indications of  
17          trafficking or a credible fear of return, but allowing  
18          for the release of unaccompanied alien children from  
19          noncontiguous countries into the interior of the  
20          United States, often to those individuals who paid to  
21          smuggle them into the country in the first place.

22                  (3) The provisions of the Trafficking Victims  
23          Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008 governing  
24          unaccompanied alien children have enriched the car-  
25          tels, who profit hundreds of millions of dollars each

1 year by smuggling unaccompanied alien children to  
2 the southwest border, exploiting and sexually abus-  
3 ing many such unaccompanied alien children on the  
4 perilous journey.

5 (4) Prior to 2008, the number of unaccom-  
6 panied alien children encountered at the southwest  
7 border never exceeded 1,000 in a single year.

8 (5) The United States is currently in the midst  
9 of the worst crisis of unaccompanied alien children  
10 in our nation's history, with over 350,000 such un-  
11 accompanied alien children encountered at the  
12 southwest border since Joe Biden became President.

13 (6) In 2022, during the Biden Administration,  
14 152,057 unaccompanied alien children were encoun-  
15 tered, the most ever in a single year and an over  
16 400 percent increase compared to the last full fiscal  
17 year of the Trump Administration in which 33,239  
18 unaccompanied alien children were encountered.

19 (7) The Biden Administration has lost contact  
20 with at least 85,000 unaccompanied alien children  
21 who entered the United States since Joe Biden took  
22 office.

23 (8) The Biden Administration dismantled effec-  
24 tive safeguards put in place by the Trump Adminis-  
25 tration that protected unaccompanied alien children

1 from being abused by criminals or exploited for ille-  
2 gal and dangerous child labor.

3 (9) A recent New York Times investigation  
4 found that unaccompanied alien children are being  
5 exploited in the labor market and “are ending up in  
6 some of the most punishing jobs in the country.”.

7 (10) The Times investigation found unaccom-  
8 panied alien children, “under intense pressure to  
9 earn money” in order to “send cash back to their  
10 families while often being in debt to their sponsors  
11 for smuggling fees, rent, and living expenses,”  
12 feared “that they had become trapped in cir-  
13 cumstances they never could have imagined.”.

14 (11) The Biden Administration’s Department of  
15 Health and Human Services Secretary Xavier  
16 Becerra compared placing unaccompanied alien chil-  
17 dren with sponsors, to widgets in an assembly line,  
18 stating that, “If Henry Ford had seen this in his  
19 plant, he would have never become famous and rich.  
20 This is not the way you do an assembly line.”.

21 (12) Department of Health and Human Serv-  
22 ices employees working under Secretary Xavier  
23 Becerra’s leadership penned a July 2021 memo-  
24 randum expressing serious concern that “labor traf-  
25 ficking was increasing” and that the agency had be-



1       come “one that rewards individuals for making quick  
2       releases, and not one that rewards individuals for  
3       preventing unsafe releases.”.

4           (13) Despite this, Secretary Xavier Becerra  
5       pressured then-Director of the Office of Refugee Re-  
6       settlement Cindy Huang to prioritize releases of un-  
7       accompanied alien children over ensuring their safe-  
8       ty, telling her “if she could not increase the number  
9       of discharges he would find someone who could” and  
10      then-Director Huang resigned one month later.

11          (14) In June 2014, the Obama-Biden Adminis-  
12      tration requested legal authority to exercise discre-  
13      tion in returning and removing unaccompanied alien  
14      children from non-contiguous countries back to their  
15      home countries.

16          (15) In August 2014, the House of Representa-  
17      tives passed H.R. 5320, which included the Protec-  
18      tion of Children Act.

19          (16) This title ends the disparate policies of the  
20      Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act  
21      of 2008 by ensuring the swift return of all unaccom-  
22      panied alien children to their country of origin if  
23      they are not victims of trafficking and do not have  
24      a fear of return.

1 **SEC. 502. REPATRIATION OF UNACCOMPANIED ALIEN CHIL-**  
2 **DREN.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Section 235 of the William Wil-  
4 berforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization  
5 Act of 2008 (8 U.S.C. 1232) is amended—

6 (1) in subsection (a)—

7 (A) in paragraph (2)—

8 (i) by amending the heading to read  
9 as follows: “RULES FOR UNACCOMPANIED  
10 ALIEN CHILDREN.—”;

11 (ii) in subparagraph (A)—

12 (I) in the matter preceding clause  
13 (i), by striking “who is a national or  
14 habitual resident of a country that is  
15 contiguous with the United States”;

16 (II) in clause (i), by inserting  
17 “and” at the end;

18 (III) in clause (ii), by striking “;  
19 and” and inserting a period; and

20 (IV) by striking clause (iii); and  
21 (iii) in subparagraph (B)—

22 (I) in the matter preceding clause  
23 (i), by striking “(8 U.S.C. 1101 et  
24 seq.) may—” and inserting “(8  
25 U.S.C. 1101 et seq.)—”;

1 (II) in clause (i), by inserting be-  
2 fore “permit such child to withdraw”  
3 the following: “may”; and

4 (III) in clause (ii), by inserting  
5 before “return such child” the fol-  
6 lowing: “shall”; and

7 (B) in paragraph (5)(D)—

8 (i) in the matter preceding clause (i),  
9 by striking “, except for an unaccompanied  
10 alien child from a contiguous country sub-  
11 ject to exceptions under subsection (a)(2),”  
12 and inserting “who does not meet the cri-  
13 teria listed in paragraph (2)(A)”; and

14 (ii) in clause (i), by inserting before  
15 the semicolon at the end the following: “,  
16 which shall include a hearing before an im-  
17 migration judge not later than 14 days  
18 after being screened under paragraph (4)”; and

19 (2) in subsection (b)—

20 (A) in paragraph (2)—

21 (i) in subparagraph (A), by inserting  
22 before the semicolon the following: “be-  
23 lieved not to meet the criteria listed in sub-  
24 section (a)(2)(A)”; and

1 (ii) in subparagraph (B), by inserting  
2 before the period the following: “and does  
3 not meet the criteria listed in subsection  
4 (a)(2)(A)”;

5 (B) in paragraph (3), by striking “an un-  
6 accompanied alien child in custody shall” and  
7 all that follows, and inserting the following: “an  
8 unaccompanied alien child in custody—

9 “(A) in the case of a child who does not  
10 meet the criteria listed in subsection (a)(2)(A),  
11 shall transfer the custody of such child to the  
12 Secretary of Health and Human Services not  
13 later than 30 days after determining that such  
14 child is an unaccompanied alien child who does  
15 not meet such criteria; or

16 “(B) in the case of a child who meets the  
17 criteria listed in subsection (a)(2)(A), may  
18 transfer the custody of such child to the Sec-  
19 retary of Health and Human Services after de-  
20 termining that such child is an unaccompanied  
21 alien child who meets such criteria.”;

22 (3) in subsection (c)—

23 (A) in paragraph (3), by inserting at the  
24 end the following:

1                   “(D) INFORMATION ABOUT INDIVIDUALS  
2 WITH WHOM CHILDREN ARE PLACED.—

3                   “(i) INFORMATION TO BE PROVIDED  
4 TO HOMELAND SECURITY.—Before placing  
5 a child with an individual, the Secretary of  
6 Health and Human Services shall provide  
7 to the Secretary of Homeland Security, re-  
8 garding the individual with whom the child  
9 will be placed, information on—

10                   “(I) the name of the individual;

11                   “(II) the social security number  
12 of the individual;

13                   “(III) the date of birth of the in-  
14 dividual;

15                   “(IV) the location of the individ-  
16 ual’s residence where the child will be  
17 placed;

18                   “(V) the immigration status of  
19 the individual, if known; and

20                   “(VI) contact information for the  
21 individual.

22                   “(ii) ACTIVITIES OF THE SECRETARY  
23 OF HOMELAND SECURITY.—Not later than  
24 30 days after receiving the information  
25 listed in clause (i), the Secretary of Home-

1 land Security, upon determining that an  
2 individual with whom a child is placed is  
3 unlawfully present in the United States  
4 and not in removal proceedings pursuant  
5 to chapter 4 of title II of the Immigration  
6 and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1221 et  
7 seq.), shall initiate such removal pro-  
8 ceedings.”; and

9 (B) in paragraph (5)—

10 (i) by inserting after “to the greatest  
11 extent practicable” the following: “(at no  
12 expense to the Government)”; and

13 (ii) by striking “have counsel to rep-  
14 resent them” and inserting “have access to  
15 counsel to represent them”.

16 (b) EFFECTIVE DATE.—The amendments made by  
17 this section shall apply to any unaccompanied alien child  
18 (as such term is defined in section 462(g) of the Home-  
19 land Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 279(g))) apprehended  
20 on or after the date that is 30 days after the date of the  
21 enactment of this Act.

1 **SEC. 503. SPECIAL IMMIGRANT JUVENILE STATUS FOR IM-**  
2 **MIGRANTS UNABLE TO REUNITE WITH EI-**  
3 **THER PARENT.**

4 Section 101(a)(27)(J) of the Immigration and Na-  
5 tionality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(27)(J)) is amended—

6 (1) in clause (i), by striking “, and whose reuni-  
7 fication with 1 or both of the immigrant’s parents  
8 is not viable due to abuse, neglect, abandonment, or  
9 a similar basis found under State law”; and

10 (2) in clause (iii)—

11 (A) in subclause (I), by striking “and” at  
12 the end;

13 (B) in subclause (II), by inserting “and”  
14 after the semicolon; and

15 (C) by adding at the end the following:

16 “(III) an alien may not be grant-  
17 ed special immigrant status under this  
18 subparagraph if the alien’s reunifica-  
19 tion with any one parent or legal  
20 guardian is not precluded by abuse,  
21 neglect, abandonment, or any similar  
22 cause under State law;”.

23 **SEC. 504. RULE OF CONSTRUCTION.**

24 Nothing in this title shall be construed to limit the  
25 following procedures or practices relating to an unaccom-

1 panied alien child (as defined in section 462(g)(2) of the  
2 Homeland Security Act of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 279(g)(2))):

3 (1) Screening of such a child for a credible fear  
4 of return to his or her country of origin.

5 (2) Screening of such a child to determine  
6 whether he or she was a victim of trafficking.

7 (3) Department of Health and Human Services  
8 policy in effect on the date of the enactment of this  
9 Act requiring a home study for such a child if he or  
10 she is under 12 years of age.

## 11 **TITLE VI—VISA OVERSTAYS** 12 **PENALTIES**

### 13 **SEC. 601. EXPANDED PENALTIES FOR ILLEGAL ENTRY OR** 14 **PRESENCE.**

15 Section 275 of the Immigration and Nationality Act  
16 (8 U.S.C. 1325) is amended—

17 (1) in subsection (a) by inserting after “for a  
18 subsequent commission of any such offense” the fol-  
19 lowing: “or if the alien was previously convicted of  
20 an offense under subsection (e)(2)(A)”;

21 (2) in subsection (b)—

22 (A) in paragraph (1), by striking “at least  
23 \$50 and not more than \$250” and inserting  
24 “not less than \$500 and not more than  
25 \$1,000”; and



1 (B) in paragraph (2), by inserting after  
2 “in the case of an alien who has been previously  
3 subject to a civil penalty under this subsection”  
4 the following: “or subsection (e)(2)(B)”; and  
5 (3) by adding at the end the following:

6 “(e) VISA OVERSTAYS.—

7 “(1) IN GENERAL.—An alien who was admitted  
8 as a nonimmigrant has violated this paragraph if the  
9 alien, for an aggregate of 10 days or more, has  
10 failed—

11 “(A) to maintain the nonimmigrant status  
12 in which the alien was admitted, or to which it  
13 was changed under section 248, including com-  
14 plying with the period of stay authorized by the  
15 Secretary of Homeland Security in connection  
16 with such status; or

17 “(B) to comply otherwise with the condi-  
18 tions of such nonimmigrant status.

19 “(2) PENALTIES.—An alien who has violated  
20 paragraph (1)—

21 “(A) shall—

22 “(i) for the first commission of such a  
23 violation, be fined under title 18, United  
24 States Code, or imprisoned not more than  
25 6 months, or both; and

1 “(ii) for a subsequent commission of  
2 such a violation, or if the alien was pre-  
3 viously convicted of an offense under sub-  
4 section (a), be fined under such title 18, or  
5 imprisoned not more than 2 years, or both;  
6 and

7 “(B) in addition to, and not in lieu of, any  
8 penalty under subparagraph (A) and any other  
9 criminal or civil penalties that may be imposed,  
10 shall be subject to a civil penalty of—

11 “(i) not less than \$500 and not more  
12 than \$1,000 for each violation; or

13 “(ii) twice the amount specified in  
14 clause (i), in the case of an alien who has  
15 been previously subject to a civil penalty  
16 under this subparagraph or subsection  
17 (b).”.

## 18 **TITLE VII—IMMIGRATION**

### 19 **PAROLE REFORM**

#### 20 **SEC. 701. IMMIGRATION PAROLE REFORM.**

21 Section 212(d)(5) of the Immigration and Nationality  
22 Act (8 U.S.C. 1182(d)(5)) is amended to read as follows:

23 “(5)(A) Except as provided in subparagraphs (B)  
24 and (C) and section 214(f), the Secretary of Homeland  
25 Security, in the discretion of the Secretary, may tempo-

1 rarely parole into the United States any alien applying for  
2 admission to the United States who is not present in the  
3 United States, under such conditions as the Secretary may  
4 prescribe, on a case-by-case basis, and not according to  
5 eligibility criteria describing an entire class of potential  
6 parole recipients, for urgent humanitarian reasons or sig-  
7 nificant public benefit. Parole granted under this subpara-  
8 graph may not be regarded as an admission of the alien.  
9 When the purposes of such parole have been served in the  
10 opinion of the Secretary, the alien shall immediately re-  
11 turn or be returned to the custody from which the alien  
12 was paroled. After such return, the case of the alien shall  
13 be dealt with in the same manner as the case of any other  
14 applicant for admission to the United States.

15 “(B) The Secretary of Homeland Security may grant  
16 parole to any alien who—

17 “(i) is present in the United States without  
18 lawful immigration status;

19 “(ii) is the beneficiary of an approved petition  
20 under section 203(a);

21 “(iii) is not otherwise inadmissible or remov-  
22 able; and

23 “(iv) is the spouse or child of a member of the  
24 Armed Forces serving on active duty.

1       “(C) The Secretary of Homeland Security may grant  
2 parole to any alien—

3           “(i) who is a national of the Republic of Cuba  
4 and is living in the Republic of Cuba;

5           “(ii) who is the beneficiary of an approved peti-  
6 tion under section 203(a);

7           “(iii) for whom an immigrant visa is not imme-  
8 diately available;

9           “(iv) who meets all eligibility requirements for  
10 an immigrant visa;

11          “(v) who is not otherwise inadmissible; and

12          “(vi) who is receiving a grant of parole in fur-  
13 therance of the commitment of the United States to  
14 the minimum level of annual legal migration of  
15 Cuban nationals to the United States specified in  
16 the U.S.-Cuba Joint Communiqué on Migration,  
17 done at New York September 9, 1994, and re-  
18 affirmed in the Cuba-United States: Joint Statement  
19 on Normalization of Migration, Building on the  
20 Agreement of September 9, 1994, done at New York  
21 May 2, 1995.

22       “(D) The Secretary of Homeland Security may grant  
23 parole to an alien who is returned to a contiguous country  
24 under section 235(b)(3) to allow the alien to attend the  
25 alien’s immigration hearing. The grant of parole shall not

1 exceed the time required for the alien to be escorted to,  
2 and attend, the alien's immigration hearing scheduled on  
3 the same calendar day as the grant, and to immediately  
4 thereafter be escorted back to the contiguous country. A  
5 grant of parole under this subparagraph shall not be con-  
6 sidered for purposes of determining whether the alien is  
7 inadmissible under this Act.

8       “(E) For purposes of determining an alien's eligi-  
9 bility for parole under subparagraph (A), an urgent hu-  
10 manitarian reason shall be limited to circumstances in  
11 which the alien establishes that—

12           “(i)(I) the alien has a medical emergency; and

13           “(II)(aa) the alien cannot obtain necessary  
14 treatment in the foreign state in which the alien is  
15 residing; or

16           “(bb) the medical emergency is life-threatening  
17 and there is insufficient time for the alien to be ad-  
18 mitted to the United States through the normal visa  
19 process;

20           “(ii) the alien is the parent or legal guardian of  
21 an alien described in clause (i) and the alien de-  
22 scribed in clause (i) is a minor;

23           “(iii) the alien is needed in the United States  
24 in order to donate an organ or other tissue for  
25 transplant and there is insufficient time for the alien

1 to be admitted to the United States through the nor-  
2 mal visa process;

3 “(iv) the alien has a close family member in the  
4 United States whose death is imminent and the alien  
5 could not arrive in the United States in time to see  
6 such family member alive if the alien were to be ad-  
7 mitted to the United States through the normal visa  
8 process;

9 “(v) the alien is seeking to attend the funeral  
10 of a close family member and the alien could not ar-  
11 rive in the United States in time to attend such fu-  
12 neral if the alien were to be admitted to the United  
13 States through the normal visa process;

14 “(vi) the alien is an adopted child with an ur-  
15 gent medical condition who is in the legal custody of  
16 the petitioner for a final adoption-related visa and  
17 whose medical treatment is required before the ex-  
18 pected award of a final adoption-related visa; or

19 “(vii) the alien is a lawful applicant for adjust-  
20 ment of status under section 245 and is returning  
21 to the United States after temporary travel abroad.

22 “(F) For purposes of determining an alien’s eligi-  
23 bility for parole under subparagraph (A), a significant  
24 public benefit may be determined to result from the parole  
25 of an alien only if—

1           “(i) the alien has assisted (or will assist, wheth-  
2           er knowingly or not) the United States Government  
3           in a law enforcement matter;

4           “(ii) the alien’s presence is required by the Gov-  
5           ernment in furtherance of such law enforcement  
6           matter; and

7           “(iii) the alien is inadmissible, does not satisfy  
8           the eligibility requirements for admission as a non-  
9           immigrant, or there is insufficient time for the alien  
10          to be admitted to the United States through the nor-  
11          mal visa process.

12          “(G) For purposes of determining an alien’s eligi-  
13          bility for parole under subparagraph (A), the term ‘case-  
14          by-case basis’ means that the facts in each individual case  
15          are considered and parole is not granted based on mem-  
16          bership in a defined class of aliens to be granted parole.  
17          The fact that aliens are considered for or granted parole  
18          one-by-one and not as a group is not sufficient to establish  
19          that the parole decision is made on a ‘case-by-case basis’.

20          “(H) The Secretary of Homeland Security may not  
21          use the parole authority under this paragraph to parole  
22          an alien into the United States for any reason or purpose  
23          other than those described in subparagraphs (B), (C), (D),  
24          (E), and (F).

1           “(I) An alien granted parole may not accept employ-  
2 ment, except that an alien granted parole pursuant to sub-  
3 paragraph (B) or (C) is authorized to accept employment  
4 for the duration of the parole, as evidenced by an employ-  
5 ment authorization document issued by the Secretary of  
6 Homeland Security.

7           “(J) Parole granted after a departure from the  
8 United States shall not be regarded as an admission of  
9 the alien. An alien granted parole, whether as an initial  
10 grant of parole or parole upon reentry into the United  
11 States, is not eligible to adjust status to lawful permanent  
12 residence or for any other immigration benefit if the immi-  
13 gration status the alien had at the time of departure did  
14 not authorize the alien to adjust status or to be eligible  
15 for such benefit.

16           “(K)(i) Except as provided in clauses (ii) and (iii),  
17 parole shall be granted to an alien under this paragraph  
18 for the shorter of—

19                   “(I) a period of sufficient length to accomplish  
20 the activity described in subparagraph (D), (E), or  
21 (F) for which the alien was granted parole; or

22                   “(II) 1 year.

23           “(ii) Grants of parole pursuant to subparagraph (A)  
24 may be extended once, in the discretion of the Secretary,  
25 for an additional period that is the shorter of—



1           “(I) the period that is necessary to accomplish  
2           the activity described in subparagraph (E) or (F) for  
3           which the alien was granted parole; or

4           “(II) 1 year.

5           “(iii) Aliens who have a pending application to adjust  
6           status to permanent residence under section 245 may re-  
7           quest extensions of parole under this paragraph, in 1-year  
8           increments, until the application for adjustment has been  
9           adjudicated. Such parole shall terminate immediately upon  
10          the denial of such adjustment application.

11          “(L) Not later than 90 days after the last day of each  
12          fiscal year, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall sub-  
13          mit to the Committee on the Judiciary of the Senate and  
14          the Committee on the Judiciary of the House of Rep-  
15          resentatives and make available to the public, a report—

16                 “(i) identifying the total number of aliens pa-  
17                 roled into the United States under this paragraph  
18                 during the previous fiscal year; and

19                 “(ii) containing information and data regarding  
20                 all aliens paroled during such fiscal year, includ-  
21                 ing—

22                         “(I) the duration of parole;

23                         “(II) the type of parole; and

24                         “(III) the current status of the aliens so  
25                         paroled.”.

1 **SEC. 702. IMPLEMENTATION.**

2 (a) IN GENERAL.—Except as provided in subsection  
3 (b), this title and the amendments made by this title shall  
4 take effect on the date that is 30 days after the date of  
5 the enactment of this Act.

6 (b) EXCEPTIONS.—Notwithstanding subsection (a),  
7 each of the following exceptions apply:

8 (1) Any application for parole or advance parole  
9 filed by an alien before the date of the enactment of  
10 this Act shall be adjudicated under the law that was  
11 in effect on the date on which the application was  
12 properly filed and any approved advance parole shall  
13 remain valid under the law that was in effect on the  
14 date on which the advance parole was approved.

15 (2) Section 212(d)(5)(J) of the Immigration  
16 and Nationality Act, as added by section 701 of this  
17 title, shall take effect on the date of the enactment  
18 of this Act.

19 (3) Aliens who were paroled into the United  
20 States pursuant to section 212(d)(5)(A) of the Im-  
21 migration and Nationality Act (8 U.S.C.  
22 1182(d)(5)(A)) before January 1, 2024, shall con-  
23 tinue to be subject to the terms of parole that were  
24 in effect on the date on which their respective parole  
25 was approved.

1 **SEC. 703. CAUSE OF ACTION.**

2 Any person, State, or local government that experi-  
3 ences financial harm in excess of \$1,000 due to a failure  
4 of the Federal Government to lawfully apply the provisions  
5 of this title or the amendments made by this title shall  
6 have standing to bring a civil action against the Federal  
7 Government in an appropriate district court of the United  
8 States for appropriate relief.

9 **SEC. 704. SEVERABILITY.**

10 If any provision of this title or any amendment by  
11 this title, or the application of such provision or amend-  
12 ment to any person or circumstance, is held to be uncon-  
13 stitutional, the remainder of this title and the application  
14 of such provision or amendment to any other person or  
15 circumstance shall not be affected.

16 **TITLE VIII—SUPPORTING OUR**  
17 **BORDER STATES**

18 **SEC. 801. BORDER BARRIER GRANTS.**

19 (a) **AUTHORIZATION.**—Notwithstanding any other  
20 provision of law, not later than 30 days after the President  
21 receives from the Governor of a southwest border State  
22 a certification that the Governor intends to use a grant  
23 under this section for a purpose set forth in subsection  
24 (b), the President shall—

1           (1) acting through the Secretary of the Treas-  
2           ury, disburse the amount determined with respect to  
3           the State under subsection (c); and

4           (2) ensure that all relevant Federal entities  
5           take such actions as may be necessary to allow for  
6           the use of grant funds in accordance with subsection  
7           (b).

8           (b) USE OF GRANT FUNDS.—A grant under this sec-  
9           tion shall be used for the construction of a southwest bor-  
10          der barrier, including continuing the construction of or re-  
11          pairs to portions of existing border barrier sufficient to  
12          prevent vehicular and pedestrian crossings across the  
13          southwest border from Mexico into the United States, and  
14          associated infrastructure, including physical barriers and  
15          associated detection technology, roads, and lighting.

16          (c) DETERMINATION OF GRANT AMOUNT.—

17           (1) IN GENERAL.—The amount disbursed to a  
18           southwest border State under this section shall be  
19           equal to the amount determined with respect to the  
20           State under paragraph (2).

21           (2) RATIO.—Of the total amount appropriated  
22           under section 803(c)(1), the amount disbursed to a  
23           southwest border State shall be in an amount that  
24           bears the same ratio of—

1 (A) the number of miles along the south-  
2 west border of the United States located in that  
3 State where there is no border barrier to—

4 (B) the total number of miles along the  
5 southwest border of the United States where  
6 there is no border barrier.

7 (3) DETERMINATIONS.—Not later than 30 days  
8 after the date of enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
9 retary of Homeland Security shall make the deter-  
10 minations under paragraph (2).

11 **SEC. 802. LAW ENFORCEMENT REIMBURSEMENT GRANTS.**

12 (a) AUTHORIZATION.—Notwithstanding any other  
13 provision of law, not later than 30 days after the President  
14 receives from the Governor of a southwest border State  
15 a certification that the Governor intends to use a grant  
16 under this section for a purpose set forth in subsection  
17 (b), the President shall acting through the Secretary of  
18 the Treasury, disburse the amount determined with re-  
19 spect to the State under subsection (c).

20 (b) USE OF GRANT FUNDS.—A grant under this sec-  
21 tion may be used for the reimbursement of expenditures  
22 related to the deployment of law enforcement or the Na-  
23 tional Guard at the southwest border of the United States,  
24 in furtherance of any law enforcement operation related  
25 to border security or immigration enforcement conducted

1 by a Governor of a southwest border State (such as Texas  
2 Governor Greg Abbott's Operational Lone Star), to—

3 (1) enforce the law of that State;

4 (2) secure that border;

5 (3) combat international criminal activity, in-  
6 cluding human trafficking, illicit narcotics traf-  
7 ficking (including fentanyl trafficking), and cartel or  
8 gang activity;

9 (4) detect and deter the unlawful entry of any  
10 alien; or

11 (5) arrest and detain any alien who unlawfully  
12 enters the United States or who is present in the  
13 United States without lawful status under the immi-  
14 gration laws (as such term is defined in section 101  
15 of the Immigration and Nationality Act).

16 (c) DETERMINATION OF GRANT AMOUNT.—

17 (1) INITIAL GRANT.—Of the total amount ap-  
18 propriated under section 803(c)(2), the amount dis-  
19 bursed to a southwest border State shall be in an  
20 amount that bears the same ratio of—

21 (A) the number border encounters along  
22 the southwest border of the United States in  
23 that State, as reported in the statistics for fis-  
24 cal year 2023 compiled by U.S. Customs and

1           Border Protection entitled “Southwest Land  
2           Border Encounters”, to—

3                   (B) the total number of border encounters  
4           along the southwest border of the United States  
5           for fiscal year 2023.

6           (2) SUBSEQUENT GRANT.—Of the total amount  
7           reallocated under section 803(d), the amount dis-  
8           bursed to a southwest border State shall be in an  
9           amount that bears the same ratio of—

10                   (A) the amount of expenditures that are el-  
11           igible for reimbursement under this section for  
12           which the State has not been reimbursed to—

13                   (B) the total amount of expenditures that  
14           are eligible for reimbursement under this sec-  
15           tion for which all southwest border States have  
16           not been reimbursed.

17           (d) PERIOD OF EXPENDITURES.—

18                   (1) INITIAL GRANT.—An initial grant under  
19           this section may be used for expenditures incurred  
20           during the period beginning on January 20, 2021  
21           and ending on the date on which the State receives  
22           the grant.

23                   (2) SUBSEQUENT GRANT.—A subsequent grant  
24           under this section may be used for expenditures in-  
25           curred on or after January 20, 2021.

1 **SEC. 803. BORDER EMERGENCY AND STATE SECURITY**  
2 **FUND.**

3 (a) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is established in the  
4 general fund of the Treasury a separate account which  
5 shall be known as the “Border Emergency and State Secu-  
6 rity Fund” (referred to in this section as the “Fund”).

7 (b) APPROPRIATIONS.—There is hereby appropriated  
8 to the Fund \$9,500,000,000 to remain available until ex-  
9 pended.

10 (c) ALLOCATION.—Of the amounts appropriated  
11 under subsection (b)—

12 (1) \$6,000,000,000 is for grants under section  
13 801; and

14 (2) \$3,500,000,000 is for grants under section  
15 802.

16 (d) REALLOCATION.—

17 (1) IN GENERAL.—On October 1, 2024, any  
18 covered funds shall be made available to southwest  
19 border States, or used by such States, as applicable,  
20 for grants under section 802.

21 (2) COVERED FUNDS DEFINED.—In this sub-  
22 section, the term “covered funds” means—

23 (A) funds allocated under subsection (c)(1)  
24 that have not been obligated for grants under  
25 section 801 or that a southwest border State



1 certifies will not be used for a grant received  
2 under such section 2; and

3 (B) funds allocated under subsection (c)(2)  
4 that have not been obligated for grants under  
5 section 802 or that a southwest border State  
6 certifies will not be used for a grant received  
7 under such section 3.

8 (e) RESCISSION.—The total amount of unobligated  
9 funds made available by section 101(e) of the Fiscal Re-  
10 sponsibility Act of 2023 (Public Law 118–5) for the De-  
11 partment of Commerce Nonrecurring Expenses Fund are  
12 hereby permanently rescinded.

13 **SEC. 804. DEFINITIONS.**

14 In this title:

15 (1) The term “alien” has the meaning given  
16 such term in section 101 of the Immigration and  
17 Nationality Act (8 U.S.C. 1101)

18 (2) The term “southwest border State” means  
19 Texas, New Mexico, Arizona, or California.

Amend the title so as to read: “A bill to secure the  
borders of the United States, and for other purposes.”.