

Congressman Cuellar's Transparency Language in Fiscal Year 2016 Omnibus Appropriations Bill

With regard to those family units who are detained, the Committee is concerned by reports that ICE has not provided appropriate food, water, and medical care to families, as well as reports about inappropriate and demeaning treatment of detainees by contract guards at such facilities. Within 15 days of enactment, and monthly thereafter, ICE is directed to update the Committee on family detention oversight activities of the ICE coordinator for family detention policy and the Office of Detention Oversight, including oversight of mechanisms for receiving and resolving complaints and responding to requests for medical care; providing all relevant and required information to detainees related to the removal process and their rights in detention; and for providing appropriate training and oversight for contract detention staff, including oversight related to staff qualifications. These updates shall also include data regarding family units in detention who are removed from the United States directly from detention; detained for longer than 30 days and longer than 60 days; issued a bond that has not been posted; and released on bond, recognizance, and parole, including data on compliance of those released with requirements for immigration court appearances. In addition, the updates should include descriptions and data on requests for medical care and response times; the average and median lengths of stay in family detention; the average, median and range for bond amounts, and improvements made as a result of recommendations by the family detention Advisory Committee or as a result of stakeholder outreach.