

Rep. Cuellar Provides Preparedness Resources to Address Migrant Influx
Emphasizes Humanitarian Reimbursements for Border Communities

MIGRANT INFLUX PREPAREDNESS & RESPONSE

Preparedness / Response at the Border

Rep. Cuellar secured the following FY22 Homeland Security Appropriations provisions:

- Provides funding for DHS Surge Force mechanism to deploy volunteer DHS personnel for emergency and disaster response around the country, as well as to help respond to migrant surges at the southern border.
- DHS Chief Medical Officer (CMO) to collaborate with HHS Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) to develop a combined Humanitarian Response Operating Plan for responding to future migrant surges, particularly those involving large numbers of families or unaccompanied children.
- The plan will include:
 - An assessment of the capabilities and capacity of DHS and HHS to provide the specialized services necessary to prioritize the welfare of children and families while in government custody;
 - Avoidance of unnecessary delays in releasing families together on Alternatives to Detention with case management and releasing accompanied children to appropriate sponsors;
 - Mechanisms for participating federal agencies to deploy personnel from across the government to the southern border as necessary during migration surges, in coordination with affected state and local jurisdictions and national and local nongovernment humanitarian organizations; and
 - Mechanisms for including personnel who are licensed to provide trauma-informed care, case management, and child welfare and plans for training other participating personnel in these areas.

Asylum Processing at Ports of Entry

Rep. Cuellar secured the following FY22 Homeland Security Appropriations provisions:

- \$500,000 to create a federally funded research and development center (FFRDC) to conduct an analysis of the asylum processing capacity and capacity requirements at land ports of entry along the U.S.- Mexico Border.
- The analysis will address the infrastructure, staffing, and other resource requirements needed to ensure the safe, humane, and orderly processing of single adults and families who present at ports of entry and make a lawful claim of fear or asylum.
- It will also examine the resources requirements for the processing of unaccompanied children prior to transfer to HHS ORR.

HUMANITARIAN CARE / BORDER COMMUNITIES

Joint Migrant Processing Centers

Rep. Cuellar secured the following FY22 Homeland Security Appropriations provisions:

- \$170,000,000 for the CRSO (Chief Readiness Support Officer) for integrated, joint migrant processing centers (JMPCs).
- The CRSO, in conjunction with CBP, ICE, and USCIS, shall work with the Office of Strategy, Policy, and Plans, the Office of the General Counsel, the Office of the Undersecretary for Management, the Office for Civil Rights and Civil Liberties; and the Office of the Immigration Detention Ombudsman, along with interagency partners such as HHS and the Department of Justice, to develop requirements for establishing JMPCs.

- CRSO shall act as the executive agent for the design and construction of such centers, which shall appropriately shelter unaccompanied children, family units, and single adults as they undergo processing required under the immigration laws, including:
 - Adherence to Flores settlement requirements;
 - Enhancing the coordination among federal agencies and between such agencies and nonprofit organizations or local jurisdictions that provide shelter and support to migrants following their release from DHS custody; and
 - Minimizing the time migrants spend in DHS custody.

Humanitarian Reimbursements to Local Communities

Rep. Cuellar secured the following FY22 Homeland Security Appropriations provisions:

- \$140,000,000 for the Emergency Food and Shelter Program (ESFP).
- The ESFP directly reimburses local governments and non-profits who have sheltered migrants crossing the border, despite the financial burdens of doing so.
- Border communities have continued to commit local resources to food and shelter, transportation, and other costs of housing migrants, which should be reimbursed with federal funding.

LAW ENFORCEMENT / LPOE IMPROVEMENTS

Technology and Staffing at LPOEs

Rep. Cuellar secured the following FY22 Homeland Security Appropriations provisions:

- \$9,147,000 to increase the number of Border Patrol Processing Coordinators.
 - DHS to examine the feasibility of using non-Law Enforcement personnel to provide assistance in processing, care, and transportation of migrants.
- \$72,225,000 for CBP Construction and Facility Improvements.
- \$50,000,000 for border technology.
- \$45,000,000 for innovative technology.
- \$10,000,000 of Port of Entry technology.

Combating Human Smuggling

Rep. Cuellar secured the following FY22 Homeland Security Appropriations provisions:

- Homeland Security Investigations (HSI) to expand its collaborative efforts to include coordination with the Financial Crimes Enforcement Network and appropriate Mexican and Central American federal partners.
- \$10,000,000 to begin increasing HSI's investigative capacity to respond to projected increases in workload associated with the planned expansion of CBP's non-intrusive inspection detection technology (NII) along the southwest border;
- \$2,200,000 to expand and enhance HSI's undercover activities, to include modernizing its certified undercover financial processes, systems, and other requirements;
- \$2,000,000 for the Center for Countering Human Trafficking;
- \$6,000,000 to increase data analysis staffing to support each Special Agent in Charge office's area of responsibility;
- \$6,500,000 to fund the training, equipment, travel, software, and analysts necessary to address the increase in child exploitation leads and investigations and increased victim assistance requirements; and
- \$4,500,000 for the training, equipping, and hiring of Human Exploitation Rescue Operative (HERO) Child-Rescue Corps program graduates.