115th Congress – First Session (2017-2018)

Rep. Cuellar attends bipartisan meeting with President Donald Trump at the White House where he discusses alternatives to the construction of a border wall on Wednesday, Sept. 13, 2017.

<u>Click here</u> to view the video of Rep. Cuellar discussing with President Trump alternatives to constructing a border wall.

FY18 Homeland Security Appropriations Mark Up Hearing

Amendment to FY18 Homeland Security Appropriations bill:

- Redirected the \$1.6 billion in funding from the border wall to the acquisition of effective and efficient border security.
- Helped to enable the U.S. Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to secure our borders and facilitate trade.
- This amendment was voted down by Republicans during committee markup.

<u>Click here</u> to view the video of Rep. Cuellar speaking during the hearing. <u>Click here</u> to view the amendment text.

Public Law 115-141 – Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2018

Protected the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge: SEC. 230. None of the funds provided in this or any other Act shall be obligated for construction of a border barrier in the Santa Ana National Wildlife Refuge.

<u>Click here</u> to view video of Rep. Cuellar speaking on the House floor in opposition to adding nearly \$1.6 billion in federal taxpayer funds to begin construction of a wall on the U.S.-Mexico border

115th Congress – Second Session (2018-2019)

FY19 Homeland Security Appropriations Mark Up Hearing

Amendment to FY19 Homeland Security Appropriations bill:

- Remove the nearly \$5 billion in funding for the border wall and instead redirect these funds to more effective border security items, such as increased personnel, technology, and equipment;
- Protect the property rights of private landowners;
- Provide funding to help private property landowners have legal representation;
- Prohibit any border barrier from being built in the Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley State Park and National Butterfly Center.
- This amendment was voted down by Republicans during committee markup.

<u>Click here</u> to view the video of Rep. Cuellar offering border wall amendment during full markup. <u>Click here</u> to view the amendment text.

Public Law 116-6 – Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2019

Protected Multiple South Texas Landmarks: SEC. 231. None of the funds made available by this Act or prior Acts are available for the construction of pedestrian fencing—

(1) within the Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge;

(2) within the Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley State Park;

(3) within La Lomita Historical park;

(4) within the National Butterfly Center; or

(5) within or east of the Vista del Mar Ranch tract of the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge. [SpaceX]

Protected Multiple South Texas Communities: SEC. 232. (a) Prior to use of any funds made available by this Act for the construction of physical barriers within the city limits of any city or census designated place described in subsection (c), the Department of Homeland Security and the local elected officials of such a city or census designated place shall confer and seek to reach mutual agreement regarding the design and alignment of physical barriers within that city or the census designated place (as the case may be). Such consultations shall continue until September 30, 2019 (or until agreement is reached, if earlier) and may be extended beyond that date by agreement of the parties, and no funds made available in this Act shall be used for such construction while consultations are continuing.

(b) Not later than July 1, 2019, the Secretary shall issue notices for public comment regarding construction of pedestrian fencing in the places identified in subsection (c). The notices shall afford the public not less than 60 days to submit comments on the location of proposed fencing in the affected areas. Not later than 90 days following the end of the comment period identified in this subsection, the Department shall publish in the Federal Register its responses to the comments received along with its plans for construction in the areas identified in the notice to which it is responding.

- (c) The cities and census designated place described in this subsection are as follows:
 - (1) Roma, Texas.
 - (2) Rio Grande City, Texas.
 - (3) Escobares, Texas.
 - (4) La Grulla, Texas.
 - (5) The census designated place of Salineno, Texas.

<u>Click here</u> to view the video of Rep. Cuellar speaking during the Conference Committee hearing. <u>Click here</u> to view Rep. Cuellar speaking against border wall funding on the House Floor.

116th Congress – First Session (2019-2020)

FY20 Department of Defense Mark Up Hearing

Prohibits Funding for Border Wall: "None of the fund appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act or any prior appropriations Acts may be used to construct a wall, fence, border barriers, or border security infrastructure along the southern land border of the United States."

<u>*Click here*</u> to view the video of Rep. Cuellar speaking during the hearing.

FY20 Energy & Water Mark Up Hearing

Prohibits Funding for Border Wall: "Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds appropriated or otherwise made available by this Act or any prior appropriations Acts for the Civil Works Program of the United States Army Corps of Engineers may be committed, obligated, expended, or otherwise used to design or construct a wall, fence, border barriers, or border security infrastructure along the southern border of the United States."

FY20 Military Construction Mark Up Hearing

Prohibits Funding for Border Wall: "Notwithstanding any other provision of law, none of the funds appropriated in this or any other Act for a military construction project, as defined by section 2801 of title 10, United States Code, for any of fiscal years 2015 through 2019 or for fiscal year 2020 may be obligated, expended, or used to design, construct, or carry out a project to construct a wall, barrier, fence, or road along the Southern border of the United States or a road to provide access to a wall, barrier, or fence constructed along the Southern border of the United States."

<u>*Click here*</u> to view the video of Rep. Cuellar speaking during the hearing.

FY20 Homeland Security Mark Up Hearing

Protects Multiple South Texas Landmarks: "Federal funds may not be made available for the construction of fencing—

- (1) within the Santa Ana Wildlife Refuge;
- (2) within the Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley State Park;
- (3) within La Lomita Historical park;
- (4) within the National Butterfly Center;
- (5) within or east of the Vista del Mar Ranch tract of the Lower Rio Grande Valley National Wildlife Refuge; or
- (6) within historic cemeteries."

Prohibits Funding for Border Wall: "No funding is provided in the bill for new physical barriers along the southwest border."

<u>*Click here*</u> to view the video of Rep. Cuellar speaking during the hearing.