

**Rep. Cuellar’s Language in the FY21 Financial Services and General Government Appropriations
Bill for Immigration Court Space**

Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) Court Space.— The Committee is concerned with the lack of necessary facilities for Immigration Judges on the U.S.-Mexico border. For fiscal year 2019, Congress authorized 534 Immigration Judges. However, the Committee notes that EOIR only has 426 courtrooms. Therefore, the Committee directs GSA to take direction from EOIR on its new space requirements. The Committee further directs GSA to conduct market research and market surveys, with EOIR’s program of requirements, that are geographically adjacent to the southwest border with the purpose of identifying potential facilities that can be used as immigration courtrooms from Federal, State, local, and private sources, including courtrooms where the cases of detained aliens or aliens subject to the Migrant Protection Protocols may be heard. The Committee expects GSA to use a turn-key leasing approach, when possible, for court space acquisition. Furthermore, in Federal locations along the U.S.-Mexico border, the Committee encourages GSA to identify and prioritize the acquisition of available space for use by EOIR as courtrooms, including courtrooms where the cases of detained aliens or aliens subject to the Migrant Protection Protocols may be heard. Finally, the Committee directs GSA to submit a report on its efforts within 90 days of enactment of this Act that includes the resources necessary to carry out this request.

Source:<https://appropriations.house.gov/sites/democrats.appropriations.house.gov/files/FSGG%20Report%20Full%20Print.PDF> (page 69)