AMENDMENT TO HOMELAND SECURITY APPROPRIATIONS BILL

OFFERED BY MR. CUellar OF TEXAS

Page 7, line 13, strike the dollar amount and all that follows through line 14 and insert “$5,000,000,000 shall be for high-priority border security items, including the fulfillment of DHS facility deferred maintenance backlogs, recapitalization critical U.S. Customs and Border Patrol facilities portfolio, modernization of top priority land ports of entry, infrastructure security and resilience projects, acquisition of advanced inspection technology and U.S. Border Patrol vehicles, removal of Carrizo cane along the Rio Grande River, maintenance and construction of new border access roads, and to increase U.S. Customs and Border Patrol officers’ salaries to reduce attrition.”.

At the end of the bill (before the spending reduction account), insert the following:

1 Sec. ____. (a) The Secretary of Homeland Security, with the concurrence of the Secretary of State, is authorized to enter into an agreement with the Government of Mexico to receive from such Government funds that the
Secretary of Homeland Security may obligate and expend for the construction of a physical border wall along the international border between the United States and Mexico.

(b) Amounts received pursuant to such agreement may only be expended on such wall in a manner that does not—

(1) involve any construction occurring in the Bentsen-Rio Grande Valley State Park and National Butterfly Center;

(2) require taking physical possession of any condemned property before the landowner is justly compensated or any related legal proceedings are concluded;

(3) result in the transfer or relinquishment of United States claims to any water or land resource to the benefit of Mexico; or

(4) leave any American citizen currently residing in the United States, or the real property of such citizen, on the Mexican side of such wall.

c) The Secretary may not obligate or expend any funds obtained pursuant to the authority under subsection (a) until the date on which the Secretary establishes a mechanism to ensure that private property owners have adequate legal representation in proceedings relating to
any land belonging to such owners that is condemned for the construction of such wall.