

Rep. Cuellar Supports Job Creation and Trade Infrastructure

Facilitating Trade and Commerce while Supporting Small Business Development

Active / Passed Legislation

Rep. Cuellar Helped Lead the Passage of the *United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) of 2019.*

[Passed into Law]

- Trilateral free trade agreement that will expand opportunities for American businesses, workers and farmers.
- Agreement is creating more balanced, reciprocal trade supporting high-paying jobs for Americans and grow the North American economy.
- It is supporting a 21st Century economy through new protections for U.S. intellectual property, and ensuring opportunities for trade in U.S. services.

Rep. Cuellar is the Author of the *North American Development Bank (NADBank) Improvement Act of 2019.*

[Added to USMCA] [Passed into Law]

- Doubles the capital reauthorization for the North American Development Bank (NADB) to \$6 billion.
- NADB provides financial support for the development and implementation of infrastructure projects to help preserve, protect, and enhance the environment at the borders.
- A new authorization of \$215 million to fund this capital increase was included in the FY20 appropriations bill for the purpose of providing immediate assistance to border communities.
- An additional \$250 million in funding was secured through the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA).

Rep. Cuellar is the Author of the *United States-Mexico Tourism Improvement Act of 2021.* [Introduced into the House]

- Directs the Department of State to emphasize bilateral and corporative tourism policies with Mexico.
- Promotes U.S.-Mexico tourism initiatives, while encouraging U.S. and Mexican nonprofit groups and the private sector to support entrepreneurship development.

Rep. Cuellar is the Author of the *United States-Mexico Economic Partnership Act of 2019.* [Passed into Law]

- Directs the Department of State to develop a strategy to enhance economic cooperation and expand professional and educational exchange programs between the United States and Mexico.
- Encourages more academic exchanges between the countries, as well as exchanges to encourage strengthening business skills and entrepreneurship.

Rep. Cuellar is the Democratic Sponsor of the *Get America Back to Work Act of 2020.*

- Limits the civil liability of businesses for the spread or possible transmission COVID-19 caused by an act or omission while acting in good faith.
- Protects any person, business, nonprofit or health care professional from being sued provided they took reasonable steps to comply with the guidance from CDC or appropriate health authorities.

Rep. Cuellar is a Cosponsor of the *Moving Forward Act of 2020.* [Passed House]

- \$1.5 trillion infrastructure bill that invests in comprehensive updates to our nation's infrastructure.
- Ensures that the jobs created through any infrastructure package are covered by Davis-Bacon Act protections, which require construction work to pay market wages and benefits.

FY22 Homeland Security Appropriations Provisions

Rep. Cuellar helped secure \$140,000,000 for the Emergency Food and Shelter Program.

- Funds authorized for reimbursement of costs related to providing humanitarian relief to migrants, including the cost of emergency preparedness activities
- At least \$25,000,000 to jurisdictions or local recipient organizations serving communities in Texas and other border states;
- At least \$5,000,000 to jurisdictions or local recipient organizations serving communities in States not located along the international border between the United States and Mexico;

Rep. Cuellar helped secure over \$50,000,000 for border technology to protect our southern border.

- Will be used to assess tunnel threats;
- Other uses will include – autonomous surveillance, geospatial capabilities, mobile surveillance, search and rescue capabilities, and mesh networks

FY22 Financial Services Appropriations Provisions

Rep. Cuellar helped secure \$330,000,000 for the Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund Program.

Rep. Cuellar helped secure \$323,800,000 for SBA Entrepreneurial Development Programs.

Rep. Cuellar helped secure \$20,000,000 for State Trade Expansion Program (STEP).

Rep. Cuellar helped secure \$221,976,000 for Federal Court house construction.

Rep. Cuellar secured language creating LPOE Centers of Excellence.

- Prioritizes funding for major repairs and alterations at southwest border land ports of entry that have the highest number of asylum seekers.

Rep. Cuellar secured language creating Mexico-American Border Coordinators.

- Directs GSA to designate a border infrastructure coordinator in each region along the southwest border.
- Interagency coordination between GSA, DOT, DHS to facilitate freight infrastructure development at the southwest border.

FY21 Homeland Security Appropriations Provisions

Rep. Cuellar secured language that will help provide support and funding for outbound inspections.

- Will interdict the flow of firearms and illicit currency that fund criminal organizations.
- Includes commitment to scanning 100% of commercial and passenger vehicles entering the U.S. at land ports of entry along the border.

FY21 Financial Services Appropriations Provisions

Rep. Cuellar helped secure \$270,000,000 for the Community Development Financial Institutions (CDFI) Fund Program.

Rep. Cuellar helped secure \$272,000,000 for SBA Entrepreneurial Development Programs.

Rep. Cuellar helped secure \$19,500,000 for State Trade Expansion Program (STEP).

Rep. Cuellar secured language creating LPOE Centers of Excellence.

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Rep. Cuellar secured language creating Mexico-American Border Coordinators.

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