

Republican Motion to Instruct #10

PROTECT AMERICAN FAMILIES FROM THE COVID-19 VIRUS BY TESTING & PROVIDING PPE TO ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS AT THE SOUTHERN BORDER AS A RESULT OF PRESIDENT BIDEN'S BORDER CRISIS

Offered by Representative Burgess (TX) and Representative Smith (MO)

Dr. Burgess and Mr. Smith move that the Committee on the Budget direct its Chairman to request on behalf of the Committee that the rule providing for consideration of the bill make in order an amendment to reprioritize funding within the bill in order to (1) provide for a COVID-19 test performed on any illegal alien crossing the Southern Border, detained at the southern border, or seeking asylum at our border; and (2) provide personal protective equipment (PPE) to any such individual, not limited to placing PPE at areas on the border where southern border wall construction has been halted as a result of Proc 10142: Termination of Emergency With Respect to the Southern Border of the United States with Redirection of Funds to Border Wall Construction.

Background

- (1) The Biden Administration is enacting policies that encourage illegal immigration, undermine national security, and enhance the crisis at the U.S. Southern Border, including President Biden's reversal of President Trump's previous order defunding "sanctuary cities" and halting border wall construction, which will result in hundreds of thousands of additional illegal immigrants per year.
- (2) This has not helped the situation at the border which has evolved into a health crisis.
 - a. Almost 1 million illegal immigrants were encountered at the border in 2019—almost twice the number encountered in 2018. In 2020, there were approximately half a million encounters at the border.
 - b. Just over 10 percent of the U.S. population has been vaccinated—American communities at the border, law enforcement officials on the frontlines, and people living in "sanctuary cities" are at risk of further spread of COVID-19 by the mass migration of illegal immigrants.
 - c. Representative John Katko (R-NY), Ranking Member of the House Committee on Homeland Security, said, "As CBP encounters at the border top 3,000 a day on average, we have swiftly moved into the dangerous territory of the 2019 border crisis. The situation at the border, combined with the raging pandemic, has created a perfect storm of security, humanitarian, and public health concerns."
- (3) State and local governments on the Southern Border do not have the resources to address the unprecedented level of illegal migration—one and a half million encounters over the past two years—resulting in disastrous consequences for communities on the border and across the nation.

- (4) The Biden Administration's immigration reform bill includes an eight-year path to citizenship for illegal immigrants living in this country as of January 1. President Biden also announced plans to allow 25,000 asylum seekers to cross the border. Both of these actions will only serve to exacerbate the health crisis at the border.
- (5) If President Biden plans to continue encouraging mass illegal migration policies, then his Administration can at least protect current Americans and law enforcement officials by ensuring illegal immigrants are tested at the border and that masks and other personal protective equipment are provided.

Technical Language

The amendment should:

strike section 3013 (Funding for global health) and section 3103 (Allowing for medical assistance under Medicaid for inmates during 30-day period preceding release) and reallocate these funds to section 3011 (Funding for COVID-19 testing, contact tracing, and mitigation activities) to ensure adequate funding is provided for testing and personal protective equipment for states at the U.S. Southern Border due to the influx of illegal immigrants.