

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

April 30th, 2024

The Honorable Rep. Mark Amodei
Chairman
Subcommittee on Homeland Security
Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Rep. Henry Cuellar
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Homeland Security
Committee on Appropriations

Dear Chairman Amodei and Ranking Member Cuellar:

As you begin crafting the Fiscal Year 2025 Homeland Security bill, I respectfully request that you give consideration to the following funding items that are shown below in priority order:

1. Provide an increase to such sums necessary for detention bed capacity under the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

The Procurement, Construction, and Improvements account provides much needed funding to ensure that ICE has the necessary tools to enforce their detention policies, especially as the Biden administration continues to perpetuate dangerous “catch and release” policies. ICE must have the necessary bed capacity to ensure illegal aliens, who should be detained for posing a risk to national security and public safety are not released into American communities. By ensuring the appropriate bed capacity in detention facilities, we can ensure that we are keeping legal, American citizens safe from harm.

2. Provide an increase to such sums necessary for border wall construction completion under the U.S. Customs and Border Protection.

The Procurement, Construction, and Improvements account should have the proper funding to continue and complete the construction of a much-needed border wall between the United States and Mexico. Illegal immigration continues to reach record highs under the Biden administration with no end in sight as DHS Secretary Mayorkas pushes lax and negligent immigration policy. It is of the utmost importance that we protect our national security and the safety of American citizens through the construction of a border wall to help prevent the flow of drugs, criminals, and terrorists into the United States.

3. Include the following bill language for the U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement account of the Department of Homeland Security:

“SEC. __. None of the funds made available by this Act may be used to obligate or award funds to a State or a political subdivision of a State that—

(A) has in effect any, law, policy, or procedure, whether written or communicated orally, in contravention of, or which substantially limits compliance with, subsection (a) or (b) of section 642 of the Illegal Immigration Reform and Immigration Responsibility Act of 1996 (8 U.S.C. 1373); or

(B) has in effect any law, policy, or procedure, whether written or communicated orally, the result of which hinders the federal government from enforcing the immigration laws as defined by 8 U.S.C. 101(a)(17).”

This language is necessary to prevent illegal aliens from being harbored by so-called “sanctuary cities.” No federal funding should be going toward helping illegal aliens subvert the law and completely disregard the proper routes by which one is processed through the United States’ immigration system. We cannot continue to allow these cities to allow these aliens who have been convicted of crimes, to be shielded from legal deportation.

Thank you for your consideration of these requests.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "John Joyce". The signature is written in a cursive style with a light blue background behind the text.

John Joyce, M.D.
Member of Congress

