

House Memorial

A memorial urging the Federal Government to secure the southern border of the United States and fix the legal immigration system.

WHEREAS, the Federal Government has failed to effectively enforce existing immigration laws, which has led to a surge in the number of unauthorized border crossings along the southern border of the United States, and

WHEREAS, United States Customs and Border Protection (CBP) reported 183,503 alien encounters along the southwest border of the United States in July 2023, which represents a stunning 357 percent increase as compared to July 2018, and

WHEREAS, CBP reported 231,529 alien encounters along the southwest border of the United States in October of 2023, and

WHEREAS, CBP reported 7,047,387 alien encounters along the southwest border of the United States since January 2020, and

WHEREAS, with the surge of unauthorized border crossings, numerous states, including Florida, have been burdened with a corresponding increase in violent crime, gang activity, the trafficking of dangerous drugs, such as fentanyl, sex trafficking, human trafficking, and the threat of infectious diseases, and

WHEREAS, the astronomical increase in the number of aliens flooding in through the southwest border has overwhelmed the

26 | resources of CBP, greatly increasing the threat of terrorism,
 27 | given that there are more than 1 million people on the Federal
 28 | Bureau of Investigation's Terrorist Screening Database, and

29 | WHEREAS, at the same time, Secretary of Homeland Security
 30 | Alejandro Mayorkas has increased the number of aliens seeking
 31 | asylum who may be admitted into the United States through the
 32 | ill-conceived expansion of usage of the CBP One mobile
 33 | application, and

34 | WHEREAS, most of the aliens processed through the CBP One
 35 | mobile application will be released into the interior of the
 36 | United States, regardless of whether they are granted parole or
 37 | are claiming asylum, and

38 | WHEREAS, with the expiration of the Title 42 policy enacted
 39 | during the COVID-19 public health emergency, which allowed
 40 | authorities to turn away migrants at the United States border,
 41 | and the suspension of border wall system construction by the
 42 | Biden Administration, illegal crossings along the southern
 43 | border are likely to continue to increase, and

44 | WHEREAS, order at the southern border has deteriorated to
 45 | such an extent that several counties in Texas along the border
 46 | of the United States and Mexico have declared states of
 47 | emergency in response to the invasion of illegal aliens, and

48 | WHEREAS, the myriad threats to our nation that result from
 49 | the collapse of order and security at the southern border not
 50 | only impose a tremendous fiscal burden on the taxpaying public

51 but also have an emotional cost, as Americans' sense of security
 52 and safety within their own communities is compromised, not only
 53 in this state, but in every corner of this nation, and

54 WHEREAS, the policies of the Biden Administration at our
 55 southern border threaten the very foundation of the American way
 56 of life, NOW, THEREFORE,

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58 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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60 That the Federal Government is urged to secure the southern
 61 border of the United States and fix the legal immigration
 62 system.

63 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of State dispatch
 64 copies of this memorial to the President of the United States,
 65 the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the
 66 United States House of Representatives, the Secretary of the
 67 United States Department of Homeland Security, and each member
 68 of the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.