

# [***Kristi Noem Goes To Work Building Texas Border Wall***](https://advance.lexis.com/api/document?collection=news&id=urn:contentItem:6C2H-80G1-JBR6-92D5-00000-00&context=1516831)

Newsweek.com

May 19, 2024 Sunday 11:16 AM EST

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**Length:** 432 words

**Byline:** Khaleda Rahman

**Highlight:** The Republican governor visited the southern border and helped South Dakota National Guard troops erect border barriers.

**Body**

South Dakota Governor [*Kristi Noem*](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/kristi-noem?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) has shared photos showing her hard at work to help Texas build barriers at the southern border.

The [*Republican*](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/republican?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) governor has repeatedly deployed National Guard troops to Texas to support Texas Governor [*Greg Abbott*](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/greg-abbott?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships)'s efforts to deter immigration at the U.S.-Mexico border.

She visited the border on Thursday, where photos show her dressed in jeans and a hard hat, helping to erect the barriers.

"I helped build the wall with the @SD\_Guard—I'm proud of our soldiers who are carrying out this mission," Noem wrote on X, formerly [*Twitter*](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/twitter?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships), on Saturday.

The National Guard troops are "doing incredible work to help Texas build the barrier wall," she said in another post.

"When I asked @gregabbott\_tx what kind of help he needed, he requested BUILDERS. These men and women are some of the best."

*Newsweek* has contacted Noem's office for further comment via email.

In another post, she said that Border Patrol agents took her "on horseback to see some rougher areas along the border—areas where cartel control and illegal activity are much stronger than is being reported."

It comes as Noem, among the contenders being considered by former President [*Donald Trump*](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/donald-trump?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) to be his vice presidential running mate, has been [*being banned from a number of tribal reservations*](https://www.newsweek.com/trump-allied-governor-banned-another-native-american-reservation-1889954?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) in her state over comments she made about [*tribal leaders benefitting from drug cartels.*](https://www.newsweek.com/kristi-noem-tribal-reservation-bans-south-dakota-1902178#:~:text=South%20Dakota%20Governor%20Kristi%20Noem,previous%20comments%20she%20has%20made.?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships)

Noem doubled down at a press conference on Friday, and again cast blame on President [*Joe Biden*](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/joe-biden?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships)'s border policies.

"The drug cartels and their criminal activity have made all of our communities unsafe. But they've especially made our tribal reservations unsafe," Noem [*said*](https://news.sd.gov/news?id=news_kb_article_view&sys_id=0601496847124a10237fbd51026d43a1).

"The problem doesn't start there—it starts thousands of miles from here. It starts at an open southern border that has become a warzone because of the neglect of President Biden and Vice President [Kamala] Harris."

Noem is continuing to face backlash after describing how she once shot and killed an "untrainable" dog in her new book, *No Going Back: The Truth on What's Wrong with* ***Politics*** *and How We Move America Forward.*

Noem wrote about killing 14-month-old Cricket after the dog attacked a family's chickens during a stop on the way home from a hunting trip and then tried to bite the governor.

[*She was also criticized*](https://www.newsweek.com/jen-psaki-kristi-noem-kim-jong-un-1897647?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) for claiming that she met with North Korean leader [*Kim Jong Un*](https://www.newsweek.com/topic/kim-jong-un?utm_source=Synacor&utm_medium=Attnet&utm_campaign=Partnerships) in the book. Noem has said that the anecdote "shouldn't have been in the book."

The book's publisher said that at Noem's request, the passage about Kim would be omitted in future print editions and removed from audiobook and e-book editions as soon as possible.

[*Link to Image*](https://d.newsweek.com/en/full/2395356/south-dakota-gov-kristi-noem.jpg)

**Graphic**

South Dakota Gov. Kristi Noem

John Lamparski/Getty Images

South Dakota Gov. Kristi Noem visits FOX Business Network's "Varney & Co" at Fox Business Network Studios on May 07, 2024 in New York City.

**Load-Date:** May 19, 2024

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