

117TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4593

To establish a block grant program to enable southwest border States to construct barriers along their borders with Mexico, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 21, 2021

Mr. BABIN (for himself, Mr. BANKS, Mr. NEHLS, Mr. CARL, Mrs. CAMMACK, Mr. LOUDERMILK, Mr. GOOD of Virginia, Mr. DUNCAN, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. JACKSON, Mr. NORMAN, Mr. ALLEN, Mr. HAGEDORN, Mr. CLINE, Mr. LAMBORN, Mr. WITTMAN, and Mr. GIBBS) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on Oversight and Reform, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To establish a block grant program to enable southwest border States to construct barriers along their borders with Mexico, and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Securing Our Border
5 States Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. ESTABLISHMENT OF BLOCK GRANT PROGRAM TO**
2 **ENABLE SOUTHWEST BORDER STATES TO**
3 **CONSTRUCT BARRIERS ALONG THEIR BOR-**
4 **DERS WITH MEXICO.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
6 sion of law, not later than 30 days after the President
7 receives from the Governor of a southwest border State
8 a certification that the Governor intends to use covered
9 block grant funding for the construction of a southwest
10 border barrier, including continuing the construction of
11 portions of existing border barrier, and associated infra-
12 structure, including physical barriers and associated detec-
13 tion technology, roads, and lighting, the President shall—

14 (1) acting through the Secretary of the Treas-
15 ury, disburse an appropriate prorated amount of
16 such block grant funding, as determined under sub-
17 section (b); and

18 (2) ensure that all relevant Federal entities
19 take such actions as may be necessary to allow for
20 such construction.

21 (b) DETERMINATION OF GRANT AMOUNT.—Not later
22 than 30 days after the date of the enactment of this Act,
23 the Secretary of Homeland Security shall—

24 (1) determine the number of miles along the
25 border between each southwest border State and
26 Mexico where there is no border barrier; and

1 (2) determine the pro-rated amount each south-
2 west border State may receive under this section on
3 the basis of the determination with respect to such
4 State under paragraph (1).

5 (c) EMPOWERING STATES TO BUILD THE WALL
6 FUND.—

7 (1) ESTABLISHMENT.—There is hereby estab-
8 lished in the General Fund of the Treasury a fund
9 to be known as the “Empowering States To Build
10 the Wall Fund”. Amounts deposited in the Fund
11 shall be available without fiscal year limitation dur-
12 ing the five-year period beginning on the date of the
13 first disbursal from the Fund for the purpose of
14 making grants to southwest border States under this
15 section.

16 (2) APPROPRIATIONS.—There is hereby appro-
17 priated to the Empowering States To Build the Wall
18 Fund \$22,000,000,000.

19 (3) RESCISSION OF CERTAIN FEDERAL FUNDS
20 APPROPRIATED FOR STATE, LOCAL, AND TRIBAL
21 GOVERNMENTS.—Notwithstanding any other provi-
22 sion of law, there are hereby permanently rescinded
23 \$22,000,000,000 of the total amount of unobligated
24 funds available under any of sections 601 through
25 603 of title VI of the Social Security Act.

1 (d) SOUTHWEST BORDER STATE DEFINED.—In this
2 section, the term “southwest border State” means Texas,
3 New Mexico, Arizona, or California.

