

117TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7756

To establish a Department of Homeland Security integrated border intelligence analytical cell and Joint Task Force to combat transnational criminal organizations exploiting migration surges, strengthen cross-border partnerships, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MAY 12, 2022

Ms. SLOTKIN (for herself and Mr. TONY GONZALES of Texas) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committees on the Judiciary, and Foreign Affairs, 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 Department of Homeland Security integrated border intelligence analytical cell and Joint Task Force to combat transnational criminal organizations exploiting migration surges, strengthen cross-border partnerships, 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 “Border Security and
5 Migrant Safety Act of 2022”.

1 **SEC. 2. BORDER SECURITY AND MIGRANT SAFETY.**

2 (a) DHS INTEGRATED BORDER INTELLIGENCE ANA-
3 LYTICAL CELL.—The Secretary of Homeland Security
4 shall establish within the National Targeting Center of
5 U.S. Customs and Border Protection a dedicated intel-
6 ligence cell focused on sharing information regarding con-
7 centrated surges of migrants arriving at the land border
8 of the United States, and illicit smuggling and trafficking
9 that may pose a border security, homeland security, public
10 health, or other threat to the land border of the United
11 States. Such cell shall integrate intelligence capabilities
12 from across the Department of Homeland Security to
13 carry out the following:

14 (1) Develop intelligence products to improve the
15 Department's ability to track, prepare for, and man-
16 age in a humane and effective manner concentrated
17 surges of migrants arriving along the land border of
18 the United States.

19 (2) Report on transnational criminal organiza-
20 tions exploiting migrating populations and migration
21 routes to smuggle narcotics and other illicit goods
22 across the land border of the United States.

23 (3) Support Federal efforts to dismantle or dis-
24 rupt illicit smuggling and trafficking along the land
25 border of the United States.

1 (4) Report on communications by transnational
2 criminal organizations and other malicious actors
3 that seek to encourage illicit migrant travel to the
4 United States.

5 (5) Develop other related intelligence products
6 that support the Department's border security oper-
7 ations.

8 (b) DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY JOINT
9 TASK FORCE TO COMBAT TRANSNATIONAL CRIMINAL
10 ORGANIZATIONS EXPLOITING MIGRATION SURGES.—

11 (1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsection
12 (b)(11) of section 708 of the Homeland Security Act
13 of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 348), not later than 180 days
14 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-
15 retary of Homeland Security shall, pursuant to such
16 section, establish a departmental Joint Task Force
17 to conduct operations using personnel and capabili-
18 ties of the Department of Homeland Security to
19 combat human trafficking and smuggling along the
20 land border of the United States for the purpose
21 specified in clause (i) of subsection (b)(2)(A) of such
22 section. Such task force shall—

23 (A) pay particular attention to
24 transnational criminal organizations that target
25 foreign nationals, particularly children and fam-

1 ilies, for smuggling and trafficking across the
2 land border of the United States; and

3 (B) when appropriate, refer to the Attor-
4 ney General for prosecution border-related
5 criminal activity.

6 (2) PERFORMANCE METRICS.—Consistent with
7 subsection (b)(9) of section 708 of the Homeland
8 Security Act of 2002, the Secretary of Homeland
9 Security shall establish and submit to the appro-
10 priate congressional committees performance metrics
11 to evaluate the effectiveness of the Joint Task Force
12 established pursuant to paragraph (1). Such per-
13 formance metrics shall include outcome-based
14 metrics associated with efforts to combat human
15 trafficking and smuggling across the land border of
16 the United States, including information on effec-
17 tiveness at identifying transnational criminal organi-
18 zations engaged in such activity, the sharing of in-
19 formation regarding such organizations, efforts to
20 dismantle or disrupt such activity by such organiza-
21 tions, and investigative contributions to the prosecu-
22 tion of such organizations.

23 (3) QUARTERLY REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not
24 later than four months after the establishment of
25 the Joint Task Force pursuant to paragraph (1) and

1 every four months thereafter until such Joint Task
2 Force is disbanded by the Secretary of Homeland
3 Security in accordance with paragraph (4), the Di-
4 rector of such Joint Task Force shall report to the
5 appropriate congressional committees on the activi-
6 ties of such Joint Task Force during the preceding
7 four-month period.

8 (4) DISBANDING OF JOINT TASK FORCE.—The
9 Secretary of Homeland Security shall—

10 (A) upon establishment of the Joint Task
11 Force pursuant to paragraph (1), report to the
12 appropriate congressional committees the cri-
13 teria to be applied by the Secretary before mak-
14 ing a determination to disband such Joint Task
15 Force; and

16 (B) not later than 15 days prior to dis-
17 banding such Joint Task Force, submit to such
18 committees a justification relating thereto.

19 (5) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-
20 TEES DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term “ap-
21 propriate congressional committees” means the com-
22 mittees specified in subparagraph (F) of section
23 708(b)(6) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002.

1 (6) REPEAL OF SUNSET.—Paragraph (13) of
2 section 708(b) of the Homeland Security Act of
3 2002 is repealed.

4 (c) STRENGTHENING CROSS-BORDER PARTNER-
5 SHIPS.—The Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordi-
6 nation with the Secretary of State, shall expand partner-
7 ship efforts with law enforcement entities in Canada, Mex-
8 ico, Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador to combat
9 human smuggling and trafficking in such countries, in-
10 cluding through the following:

11 (1) Expansion of transnational criminal inves-
12 tigative units to identify, disrupt, dismantle, and
13 prosecute human smuggling and trafficking oper-
14 ations.

15 (2) Participation in the Bilateral Human Traf-
16 ficking Enforcement Initiative by U.S. Immigration
17 and Customs Enforcement and the Department of
18 Justice with their Mexican law enforcement counter-
19 parts.

20 (3) Advanced training programs for investiga-
21 tors and prosecutors from such countries.

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