

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 5315

To direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to enhance border security by seeking to expand partnerships with appropriate law enforcement entities in Mexico and Central American and South American countries to combat human smuggling and trafficking operations in Mexico and such countries, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

NOVEMBER 14, 2024

Mr. PETERS introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs

A BILL

To direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to enhance border security by seeking to expand partnerships with appropriate law enforcement entities in Mexico and Central American and South American countries to combat human smuggling and trafficking operations in Mexico and such countries, 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 “Cooperation on Com-
5 bating Human Smuggling and Trafficking Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY PARTNER-**
2 **SHIPS TO COMBAT HUMAN SMUGGLING AND**
3 **TRAFFICKING.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Secu-
5 rity, in coordination with appropriate Federal partners,
6 shall enhance border security by seeking to expand part-
7 nerships with appropriate law enforcement entities in
8 Mexico and Central American and South American coun-
9 tries to combat human smuggling and trafficking oper-
10 ations in Mexico and such countries, including by—

11 (1) establishing or expanding cross-border
12 transnational criminal investigative units to identify,
13 disrupt, and support the prosecution of human
14 smuggling and trafficking operations;

15 (2) enhancing participation in the Bilateral
16 Human Trafficking Enforcement Initiative or a suc-
17 cessor initiative; and

18 (3) providing advanced training for certain in-
19 vestigators and prosecutors from Mexico and other
20 Latin American countries.

21 (b) INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION OF HUMAN
22 SMUGGLING AND TRAFFICKING.—The Secretary of
23 Homeland Security shall seek to expand collaborative pro-
24 grams involving Homeland Security Investigations that
25 are aimed at supporting the investigation and prosecution
26 of human smugglers and traffickers targeting children and

1 families that pose border security threats and operate at
2 the southern land border of the United States, including
3 the continuation and expansion of anti-trafficking coordi-
4 nation teams.

5 (c) INFORMATION CAMPAIGN TO DETER MIGRA-
6 TION.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland
8 Security shall carry out targeted public information
9 campaigns—

10 (A) to inform targeted migrant populations
11 within Mexico, Central America, South Amer-
12 ica, and certain other countries with high mi-
13 gration rates regarding the dangers of travel
14 across Mexico to the United States; and

15 (B) to combat misinformation and
16 disinformation by transnational criminal organi-
17 zations and other nefarious actors regarding
18 United States laws or policies.

19 (2) SPECIFICATIONS.—The information cam-
20 paigns implemented pursuant to paragraph (1) shall,
21 to the greatest extent possible—

22 (A) be targeted at populations and local-
23 ities with high migration rates;

24 (B) employ a variety of communications
25 media; and

1 (C) be developed in consultation with ap-
2 propriate program officials of the Department
3 of State and, as appropriate, Mexican, Central
4 American, South American, and other appro-
5 priate foreign governments, nonprofit or aca-
6 demic entities, and representatives acting on be-
7 half of targeted migrant populations, including
8 repatriated migrants.

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