

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 163

To immediately resume construction of the border wall system along the international border between the United States and Mexico to secure the border, enforce the rule of law, and expend appropriated funds as mandated by Congress, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JANUARY 3, 2025

Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana (for himself, Mr. BRECHEEN, Mr. BERGMAN, Mr. MEUSER, Mr. CLINE, Mr. MOOLENAAR, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Mr. FEENSTRA, Mr. BUCHANAN, Mr. ROSE, Mr. EZELL, Ms. MACE, Mr. BOST, Mr. FLEISCHMANN, Mr. ROY, Mrs. HOUCHIN, Mr. KUSTOFF, Mrs. LUNA, Mr. HUIZENGA, Mr. CRANK, Mr. TAYLOR, Mrs. HARSHBARGER, and Mr. GUEST) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security

A BILL

To immediately resume construction of the border wall system along the international border between the United States and Mexico to secure the border, enforce the rule of law, and expend appropriated funds as mandated by Congress, 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 “Finish the Wall Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. BORDER WALL SYSTEM CONSTRUCTION.**

2 (a)(1) IMMEDIATELY RESUME BORDER WALL SYS-
3 TEM CONSTRUCTION.—Not later than 24 hours after the
4 date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Home-
5 land Security shall resume all activities related to the con-
6 struction of the border barrier system (also known as, and
7 referred to in this Act as, the “border wall system”) along
8 the international border between the United States and
9 Mexico that were underway or being planned for prior to
10 January 20, 2021.

11 (2) NO CANCELLATIONS.—The Secretary of Home-
12 land Security may not cancel any contract for activities
13 related to border wall system construction referred to in
14 paragraph (1) that was entered into on or before January
15 20, 2021.

16 (3) USE OF FUNDS.—The Secretary of Homeland
17 Security shall expend all funds appropriated or explicitly
18 obligated for border wall system construction referred to
19 in paragraph (1) that were appropriated or obligated, as
20 the case may be, beginning on October 1, 2016, to carry
21 out this Act.

22 (4) IMPLEMENTATION PLAN FOR BORDER WALL
23 SYSTEM.—Not later than 30 days after the date of the
24 enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security
25 shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees
26 an implementation plan to complete, by not later than

1 September 30, 2026, border wall system construction re-
2 ferred to in paragraph (1) and funded in accordance with
3 paragraph (3).

4 (b) PLAN TO COMPLETE TACTICAL INFRASTRUC-
5 TURE AND TECHNOLOGY ELEMENTS OF BORDER WALL
6 SYSTEM.—Not later than 90 days after the date of the
7 enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security
8 shall submit to the appropriate congressional committees
9 an implementation plan, including quarterly benchmarks
10 and cost estimates, for satisfying all requirements of bor-
11 der wall system construction referred to in subsection
12 (a)(1), including tactical infrastructure, technology, and
13 other elements as identified by the Department of Home-
14 land Security prior to January 20, 2021, through the ex-
15 penditure of funds appropriated or explicitly obligated, as
16 the case may be, for use beginning on October 1, 2016,
17 as well as any future funds appropriated by Congress.

18 (c) UPHOLD NEGOTIATED AGREEMENTS.—The Sec-
19 retary of Homeland Security shall ensure that all agree-
20 ments executed in writing between the Department of
21 Homeland Security and private citizens, State, local, and
22 Tribal governments, and other stakeholders are honored
23 by the Department relating to current and future border
24 wall system construction as required by such agreements.

1 **SEC. 3. DNA COLLECTION CONSISTENT WITH FEDERAL**
2 **LAW.**

3 Not later than 14 days after the date of the enact-
4 ment of this Act, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall
5 ensure and certify to the Committee on Homeland Secu-
6 rity of the House of Representatives and the Committee
7 on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs of the
8 Senate that U.S. Customs and Border Protection is fully
9 compliant with the DNA Fingerprint Act of 2005 at all
10 border facilities that process adults, including as part of
11 a family unit, in the custody of U.S. Customs and Border
12 Protection at the border.

13 **SEC. 4. DEFINITIONS.**

14 In this Act:

15 (1) **APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-**
16 **TEES.**—The term “appropriate congressional com-
17 mittees” means the Committee on Homeland Secu-
18 rity and the Committee on Appropriations of the
19 House of Representatives and the Committee on
20 Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs and
21 the Committee on Appropriations of the Senate.

22 (2) **TACTICAL INFRASTRUCTURE.**—The term
23 “tactical infrastructure” includes boat ramps, access
24 gates, checkpoints, lighting, and roads associated
25 with a border wall system.

1 (3) TECHNOLOGY.—The term “technology” in-
2 cludes border surveillance and detection technology,
3 including linear ground detection systems, associated
4 with a border wall system.

○