

AMENDMENT NO. \_\_\_\_\_ Calendar No. \_\_\_\_\_

Purpose: In the nature of a substitute.

**IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES—118th Cong., 2d Sess.**

**S. 1897**

To require the Secretary of Homeland Security to enhance capabilities for outbound inspections at the southern land border, and for other purposes.

Referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_ and  
ordered to be printed

Ordered to lie on the table and to be printed

AMENDMENT IN THE NATURE OF A SUBSTITUTE intended  
to be proposed by Ms. HASSAN (for herself and Mr.  
LANKFORD)

Viz:

1 Strike all after the enacting clause and insert the fol-  
2 lowing:

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Enhancing South-  
5 bound Inspections to Combat Cartels Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. DEFINITIONS.**

7 In this Act:

8 (1) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-  
9 TEES.—The term “appropriate congressional com-  
10 mittees” means—

1 (A) the Committee on Appropriations of  
2 the Senate;

3 (B) the Committee on Homeland Security  
4 and Governmental Affairs of the Senate;

5 (C) the Committee on the Judiciary of the  
6 Senate;

7 (D) the Committee on Appropriations of  
8 the House of Representatives;

9 (E) the Committee on Homeland Security  
10 of the House of Representatives; and

11 (F) the Committee on the Judiciary of the  
12 House of Representatives.

13 (2) SOUTHERN BORDER.—The term “Southern  
14 Border” means the international land border be-  
15 tween the United States and Mexico.

16 **SEC. 3. ADDITIONAL INSPECTION EQUIPMENT AND INFRA-**  
17 **STRUCTURE.**

18 (a) IMAGING SYSTEMS.—The Commissioner of U.S.  
19 Customs and Border Protection is authorized—

20 (1) to purchase up to 50 additional non-intru-  
21 sive imaging systems; and

22 (2) to procure additional associated supporting  
23 infrastructure.

24 (b) DEPLOYMENT.—The systems and infrastructure  
25 purchased or otherwise procured pursuant to subsection

1 (a) shall be deployed along the Southern Border for the  
2 primary purpose of inspecting any persons, conveyances,  
3 or modes of transportation traveling from the United  
4 States to Mexico.

5 (c) ALTERNATIVE EQUIPMENT.—The Commissioner  
6 of U.S. Customs and Border Protection is authorized to  
7 procure additional infrastructure or alternative inspection  
8 equipment that the Commissioner deems necessary for the  
9 purpose of inspecting any persons, conveyances, or modes  
10 of transportation traveling from the United States to Mex-  
11 ico.

12 (d) SUNSET.—Subsections (a) and (c) shall cease to  
13 have force and effect beginning on the date that is 5 years  
14 after the date of the enactment of this Act.

15 **SEC. 4. ADDITIONAL HOMELAND SECURITY INVESTIGA-**  
16 **TIONS PERSONNEL FOR INVESTIGATIONS OF**  
17 **SOUTHBOUND SMUGGLING.**

18 (a) HSI SPECIAL AGENTS.—The Director of U.S.  
19 Immigration and Customs Enforcement shall hire, train,  
20 and assign—

21 (1) not fewer than 100 new Homeland Security  
22 Investigations special agents to primarily assist with  
23 investigations involving the smuggling of currency  
24 and firearms from the United States to Mexico; and

1           (2) not fewer than 100 new Homeland Security  
2           Investigations special agents to assist with investiga-  
3           tions involving the smuggling of contraband, human  
4           trafficking and smuggling (including that of chil-  
5           dren), drug smuggling, and unauthorized entry into  
6           the United States from Mexico.

7           (b) SUPPORT STAFF.—The Director is authorized to  
8           hire, train, and assign such additional support staff as  
9           may be necessary to support the functions carried out by  
10          the special agents hired pursuant to subsection (a).

11          **SEC. 5. REPORT.**

12          (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 1 year after the  
13          date of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary of Home-  
14          land Security shall submit a report to the appropriate con-  
15          gressional committees that—

16                (1) identifies the resources provided, including  
17                equipment, personnel, and infrastructure, and the  
18                annual budget to carry out outbound and inbound  
19                inspections, including, to the extent practicable, re-  
20                sources specifically used for inspections of any indi-  
21                viduals and modes of transportation—

22                        (A) from the United States to Mexico or to  
23                        Canada; and

24                        (B) from Mexico or Canada into the  
25                        United States.

1           (2) describes the operational cadence of all out-  
2 bound and inbound inspections of individuals and  
3 conveyances traveling from the United States to  
4 Mexico or to Canada and from Mexico or Canada  
5 into the United States, described as a percentage of  
6 total encounters or as the total number of inspec-  
7 tions conducted;

8           (3) describes any plans that would allow for the  
9 use of alternative inspection sites near a port of  
10 entry;

11          (4) includes an estimate of—

12           (A) the number of vehicles and convey-  
13 ances that can be inspected with up to 50 addi-  
14 tional non-intrusive imaging systems dedicated  
15 to southbound inspections; and

16           (B) the number of vehicles and convey-  
17 ances that can be inspected with up to 50 addi-  
18 tional non-intrusive imaging systems that may  
19 be additionally dedicated to inbound inspections  
20 along the southwest border; and

21          (5) assesses the capability of inbound inspec-  
22 tions by authorities of the Government of Mexico, in  
23 cooperation with United States law enforcement  
24 agencies, to detect and interdict the flow of illicit  
25 weapons and currency being smuggled—

1 (A) from the United States to Mexico; and

2 (B) from Mexico into the United States.

3 (b) CLASSIFICATION.—The report submitted pursu-  
4 ant to subsection (a), or any part of such report, may be  
5 classified or provided with other appropriate safeguards  
6 to prevent public dissemination.

7 **SEC. 6. MINIMUM MANDATORY SOUTHBOUND INSPECTION**  
8 **REQUIREMENT.**

9 (a) REQUIREMENT.—Not later than March 30, 2027,  
10 the Secretary of Homeland Security shall ensure, to the  
11 extent practicable, that not fewer than 10 percent of all  
12 conveyances and other modes of transportation traveling  
13 from the United States to Mexico are inspected before  
14 leaving the United States.

15 (b) AUTHORIZED INSPECTION ACTIVITIES.—Inspec-  
16 tions required pursuant to subsection (a) may include non-  
17 intrusive imaging, physical inspections by officers or ca-  
18 nine units, or other means authorized by the Secretary  
19 of Homeland Security.

20 (c) REPORT ON ADDITIONAL INSPECTIONS CAPABILI-  
21 TIES.—Not later than March 30, 2028, the Secretary of  
22 Homeland Security shall submit a report to the appro-  
23 priate congressional committees assessing the Department  
24 of Homeland Security's timeline and resource require-  
25 ments for increasing inspection rates to 15 and 20 percent

1 of all conveyances and modes of transportation traveling  
2 from the United States to Mexico.

3 **SEC. 7. CURRENCY AND FIREARMS SEIZURES QUARTERLY**  
4 **REPORT.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—Not later than 90 days after the  
6 date of the enactment of this Act, and every 90 days there-  
7 after until the date that is 4 years after such date of en-  
8 actment, the Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border  
9 Protection shall submit a report to the appropriate con-  
10 gressional committees that describes the seizure of cur-  
11 rency, firearms, and ammunition attempted to be traf-  
12 ficked out of the United States.

13 (b) CONTENTS.—Each report submitted pursuant to  
14 subsection (a) shall include, for the most recent 90-day  
15 period for which such information is available—

16 (1) the total number of currency seizures that  
17 occurred from outbound inspections at United States  
18 ports of entry;

19 (2) the total dollar amount associated with the  
20 currency seizures referred to in paragraph (1);

21 (3) the total number of firearms seized from  
22 outbound inspections at United States ports of  
23 entry;

1           (4) the total number of ammunition rounds  
2 seized from outbound inspections at United States  
3 ports of entry; and

4           (5) the total number of incidents of firearm sei-  
5 zures and ammunition seizures that occurred at  
6 United States ports of entry.