Strengthening Border Security: An American Budget

Illegal immigration and illicit materials, particularly illegal drugs, coming across our borders have strained Federal resources and overwhelmed the agencies charged with border security and immigration enforcement. High levels of illegal immigration have also affected the communities where many of these illegal aliens have settled. The Federal Government must employ all lawful means to enforce the immigration laws of the United States and reduce the flow of illegal aliens and illegal drugs into the country.

The President’s 2019 Budget Provides funding for sizable investments in:

- Border infrastructure;
- Border security technology and equipment;
- Hiring additional Customs and Border Protection (CBP) and Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) law enforcement officers;
- Increased capacity to administratively detain illegal aliens and incarcerate criminal aliens;
- Increased capacity to adjudicate immigration cases at the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR); and
- Increased removals of illegal aliens.

In addition, with the recent two-year caps deal, the Administration is seeking the total $18 billion request for a border wall. Building the wall is critical to impeding traffickers and illegal aliens and denying them entrance into the country. The Administration is committed to providing the Border Patrol and our law enforcement personnel with the tools and resources they need to secure our country.

### Border Security and Immigration Enforcement Funding by Year: FYs 2010 -2019 ($ billions)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>CBP</td>
<td>$10.1</td>
<td>$9.6</td>
<td>$10.2</td>
<td>$10.3</td>
<td>$10.6</td>
<td>$10.9</td>
<td>$11.2</td>
<td>$12.1</td>
<td>$13.9**</td>
<td>$14.2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>ICE</td>
<td>$5.4</td>
<td>$5.5</td>
<td>$5.5</td>
<td>$5.4</td>
<td>$5.3</td>
<td>$6.0</td>
<td>$5.8</td>
<td>$6.4</td>
<td>$7.6</td>
<td>$8.3</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>EOIR</td>
<td>$0.3</td>
<td>$0.3</td>
<td>$0.3</td>
<td>$0.3</td>
<td>$0.3</td>
<td>$0.3</td>
<td>$0.4</td>
<td>$0.4</td>
<td>$0.5</td>
<td>$0.6</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>$15.8</td>
<td>$15.4</td>
<td>$16.0</td>
<td>$16.0</td>
<td>$16.2</td>
<td>$17.2</td>
<td>$17.4</td>
<td>$18.9</td>
<td>$22.0</td>
<td>$23.1</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

** With the caps deal, the Administration is seeking an additional $15.6B above the FY 2018 Budget level for CBP investments in border security.

*Department of Homeland Security (DHS).* Overall 2019 funding for U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) ($14.2 billion) and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) ($8.3 billion) is 22 percent higher than the FY 2017 enacted level.
The Budget proposes sizable investments in a border wall; border security technology and equipment; funding to hire additional CBP and ICE law enforcement officers; and increased capacity to detain and deport illegal aliens.

- The Budget requests over $2.2 billion in high-priority investments in border security technology, infrastructure, and equipment to help CBP prevent, detect, and interdict illegal border crossings. These investments include:
  - $1.6 billion for new border wall in locations identified by the Border Patrol as necessary to obtain operational control of the border and impede illegal crossings.
  - $183 million for aircraft and other aviation assets to help identify and track illegal border crossings and support enforcement actions on the ground.
  - $149 million for critical equipment and facility needs, such as Border Patrol stations, vehicles, and radios.
  - $182 million for surveillance technology, such as towers, radars, cameras, and sensors, to give the Border Patrol situational awareness in high-risk areas.
  - $107 million for road maintenance to give Border Patrol access to difficult to reach locations.
  - $44 million to recapitalize non-intrusive inspection equipment at ports of entry, anticipating that stronger enforcement between the ports may lead to increased contraband flowing through official border crossings.
  - These funds are all in addition to the 2018 Budget request of $2.6 billion for these activities, as well as an additional $15.56 billion the Administration is seeking in 2018 for border security as a result of the Congressional caps deal.

- The Budget continues implementation of the President’s direction to hire 5,000 additional Border Patrol Agents and 10,000 ICE officers and investigators. The Budget proposes $782 million to hire and support 2,750 additional law enforcement officers and agents at CBP and ICE, and makes investments at the Federal Law Enforcement Training Centers to begin training new law enforcement personnel. Specifically:
  - CBP: The Budget proposes $211 million to hire and support an additional 750 U.S. Border Patrol Agents to interdict people and contraband illegally entering the United States between ports of entry.
  - ICE: The Budget proposes $571 million to hire and support an additional 2,000 Law Enforcement Officers to support the President’s direction to increase interior immigration enforcement.

- The Budget makes other investments in increasing interior immigration enforcement, including:
  - $2.7 billion in total funding for 52,000 average daily ICE immigration detention beds, a 25 percent increase over the 2017 Enacted level;
- $278 million for the identification, location, and arrest of fugitive illegal aliens in the United States;
- $686 million for the removal of criminal aliens incarcerated in U.S. jails and prisons; and
- $132 million to support mandatory nationwide use of the E-Verify program, ensuring that businesses employ only those authorized to work in the United States.

**Department of Justice.** At the Department of Justice (DOJ), the 2019 Budget proposes an overall funding level of $563 million for the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR), a 28 percent increase over the 2017 Enacted level.

- As part of the Administration’s efforts to reduce the pending caseload, the Budget expands EOIR’s adjudicatory capacity by providing funding for an additional 75 Immigration Judge (IJ) teams.
- In addition, $25 million is provided to support technology modernization, improving operational efficiency and promoting the timely adjudication of cases.

**Sanctuary Cities.** Within the Budget’s statutory proposals for DHS and DOJ, there are twin provisions that would amend 8 U.S.C. 1373 to:

- Clarify that notwithstanding any other provision of Federal, State, or local law, or a Federal, State, or local government entity or official may not prohibit, or in any way restrict, any government entity or official from honoring or complying with a civil immigration detainer; and
- Explicitly authorize DHS and DOJ to condition certain grants and cooperative agreements on requirements that recipients agree to cooperate with specific Federal immigration enforcement activities and requests.

**Deficit Reduction.** The 2019 Budget also includes two immigration-related deficit reduction proposals:

- The Budget proposes adding a 10 percent surcharge to immigration filing fees to be used for deficit reduction. This proposal, which will raise $5 billion over the next ten years, recognizes that those who relocate to the United States benefit significantly from the Nation’s opportunities; and
- The Budget also proposes a 35 percent increase in all civil and criminal worksite enforcement penalties assessed against those employers who violate Immigration and Nationality Act (INA) provisions on the unlawful employment of illegal aliens. The additional revenue from these increases will be directed to deficit reduction.