

Who's Really Funding Border Security?

While Republicans are busy taking selfies at the border and bickering about building a wall, Democrats have been hard at work funding the programs and policies that make our nation safe and ensure that those who enter qualify to do so under US law. Through the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill and the Omnibus Appropriations Bill for 2022, a Democratic Congress has allocated nearly **\$90 billion** to the Department of Homeland Security to protect our borders, enforce our laws, and better prepare us to defend against terrorism and cyber-attacks. Here's a roadmap for where those crucial funds are being spent.

Securing Our Borders

Infrastructure Improvements at Ports of Entry

- \$2.3 billion** to improve vehicle and biometric technology screening at ports of entry.
- \$210 million** to repair damaged roads and open entry lanes.
- \$455.4 million** to Customs and Border Patrol (CBP) for equipment and systems improvement.
- \$8.4 billion** to TSA for X-ray screening technology and explosive detection systems.

Processing Claims Under US Law

Speedy Hearings for Asylum Seekers

- \$430 million** for asylum processing technology, construction projects, and other physical equipment necessary to execute orderly processing of cases.
- \$409.5 million** to alleviate application processing backlog and delays and fund the Citizen and Integration Grant program.
- \$1.45 billion** to support CBP, Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and FEMA to manage the influx of migrants at the Southern border.

Supporting Law Enforcement

Expanded Assistance for Border Personnel

- \$30 million** to CBP for body-worn cameras and video recording equipment.
- \$11 million** in tuition and childcare assistance for those who protect our border.
- \$2.6 billion** to U.S. Secret Service for overtime and retention bonuses, computer forensics training, and investigations of missing and exploited children.

Preparing for the Future

Investments in Modernizing Homeland Security

- \$430 million** to study the efficacy of new projects and alleviate backlogs.
- \$1.637 billion** for the continued development of the St. Elizabeth's DHS Headquarters and additional migrant processing centers.
- \$2.7 billion** for Cybersecurity Operations, Infrastructure Security and Integrated Operations, Emergency Communications, and Risk Management Operations.

Source: Homeland Security, 15 Nov. 2021, <https://www.dhs.gov/news/2021/11/15/fact-sheet-how-bipartisan-infrastructure-bill-will-help-dhs-secure-our-homeland>. Accessed May 10, 2022. | United States, "Fact Sheet: How the Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Will Help DHS Secure Our Homeland." Department of Homeland Security Appropriations: FY2022. Congressional Research Service, 24 Mar. 2022, <https://sgp.fas.org/crs/homesec/R47005.pdf>. Accessed May 10, 2022. 117th Congress, 2nd Session, CRS Report R47005. | United States, Congress, House. Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2022. Congress.gov, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/2471/text>. 117th Congress, 2nd Session, House Resolution 2471, passed 15 Mar. 2022. | United States, Congress, House. Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act. Congress.gov, <https://www.congress.gov/bill/117th-congress/house-bill/3684/text>. 117th Congress, 1st Session, House Resolution 3684, passed 15 Nov. 2021. | Zak, Danilo. "Fact Sheet: Border Funding in the Bipartisan Infrastructure Legislation." National Immigration Forum, 30 Nov. 2021, <https://immigrationforum.org/article/fact-sheet-border-funding-in-the-bipartisan-infrastructure-legislation/>. Accessed May 10, 2022.