



TOP AMERICA FIRST ACTIONS TO

SECURE THE BORDER



The current administration's open border policies and failure to enforce our Nation's laws continue to present serious risks for the American people.

The ongoing humanitarian and security crisis at the southern border was intentionally created by the Biden Administration's decision to end the successful policies of the Trump Administration. New laws could help secure the border, but the Biden Administration already has the authority it needs today to stop the record-breaking numbers of illegal aliens, known and suspected terrorists, and deadly fentanyl coming over the border. We must return to America First policies to secure the border, end human trafficking, and defeat the Mexican drug cartels.

TOP AMERICA FIRST ACTIONS TO *SECURE THE BORDER*



1

Build the Border Wall System

The border wall system and related infrastructure comprise an effective physical barrier that protects the American people and upholds the rule of law. The Trump Administration listened to Border Patrol operators, who identified the optimal infrastructure, materials, and locations for a barrier across the southern border. The Biden Administration's failure to complete the wall endangers Americans and further incentivizes illegal immigration and the flow of fentanyl into American communities.

2

Reinstate Deterrence Policies

The Trump Administration's Migrant Protection Protocols combated asylum fraud and disrupted the smuggling and trafficking networks by denying economic migrants entry into the U.S. Additionally, Asylum Cooperative Agreements helped reduce illegal immigration because the possibility of being returned to a third country rather than being released into the U.S. deterred asylum fraud.

3

Target the Cartels

The Mexican cartels are public enemy number one and have only become more powerful under the Biden Administration's open border policies. To defeat the cartels, the Biden Administration must use an all-of-the-above approach, including possibly designating the cartels as a Foreign Terrorist Organization, authorizing the use of military force, and targeting them through the cyber and financial industries.

4

Replace Title 42 Authorities With Permanent Border Security Provisions

Title 42 is an emergency public health authority that allowed the government to expel aliens at the border

to stop the spread of infectious diseases. The Biden Administration has no long-term strategy to counter those who exploit the asylum system now that Title 42 has ended. Federal law should allow the immediate expulsion of illegal aliens at the border if the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is unable to detain them or make them wait in Mexico.

5

Raise the Credible Fear Standard

Under current law, illegal aliens can claim a "credible fear" of persecution or an intention to seek asylum and be allowed into American communities, no matter how baseless the asylum claim is. Around 80% of illegal aliens pass the credible fear standard, but no more than 15% ultimately qualify for asylum. Instead of requiring "a significant possibility," the standard should be raised to "more probable than not" that the claimed persecution qualifies for asylum.

6

Promptly Repatriate Illegal Aliens

At least 11 million illegal aliens live within our borders, and more are coming each day. The Biden Administration is deporting record-low numbers of illegal aliens, especially criminal aliens. DHS must deport the maximum possible number of removable aliens each year to send a clear message that illegal arrivals will not be rewarded.

7

Increase Detention Capacity

Illegal aliens are often released into American communities due to a lack of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement detention beds or a lack of utilization of existing resources. Congress should provide funding for more beds and facilities to house illegal immigrants, particularly for Family Units, and the

administration must maximize the usage of these facilities, which will send a message that unlawful entry into the U.S. has consequences.

8

Impose Fees on International Wire Transfers

Illegal alien and narcotic trafficking networks typically use international wire transfers to send money out of the country. States can fight back by adopting the "Oklahoma model," which imposes a fee on all outgoing wire transfers. Not only would this deter further illegal immigration, but it could result in millions of dollars for local law enforcement. This fee could also help cover the uncompensated costs of illegal immigration to schools, healthcare systems, and law enforcement.

9

Mandate E-Verify

Millions of illegal aliens currently work in the U.S. unlawfully because the existing paper-based Form I-9 verification process is easy to exploit. As a result, many Americans' wages and job opportunities are harmed. States can fight back by mandating E-Verify, a free, web-based system that allows them to confirm the eligibility of their employees to work in the U.S.

10

Crack Down On Human Traffickers

The humanitarian crisis at the border has resulted in an incalculable amount of suffering by migrants, especially unaccompanied alien children, who fall victim to human traffickers and smugglers. States should raise mandatory minimum fines and sentence times for convicted human smugglers and ensure their statutes mirror 8 USC 1324, the federal anti-alien smuggling statute.