



A Border Security and Humanitarian Crisis

TODAY'S BRIEFING

The Crisis and How It Is Different

- Drugs
- Criminals, Gangs, Terrorists
- Vulnerable Populations

The Solutions We Need

- Finishing the Border Wall
- Fixing the TVPRA law to allow consistent treatment of unaccompanied alien children
- Overriding the “Flores Settlement” to allow families to remain together



INCREASING DRUG LEVELS

A dramatic spike in illegal drugs at the southern border makes clear the need for an effective physical barrier.

38%

*Increase in
methamphetamine
(FY17-FY18)*

22%

*Increase in heroin
(FY17-FY18)*

73%

*Increase in fentanyl
(FY17-FY18)*

In FY18 CBP seized or helped seize:

- **282,000 lbs** of cocaine
- **248,000 lbs** of methamphetamine
- **6,500 lbs** of heroin
- **2,400 lbs** of fentanyl

*1.7 million pounds of narcotics seized
by CBP in FY18 in total*



DANGEROUS CRIMINALS, GANG MEMBERS, AND SUSPECTED TERRORISTS

DHS agencies are fighting an influx of dangerous people and need the resources to do so.

17,000

Adults at the Southern Border with existing criminal records arrested by CBP and border agents (FY18)

3,755

Known or suspected terrorists prevented from traveling to or entering the U.S. by DHS (FY17)

6,000

Gang members, including MS-13, apprehended at the Southern Border and removed by ICE

*Each year criminal organizations gain **\$2.5 BILLION** in profit from migrant smuggling*



A RISE IN VULNERABLE POPULATIONS OVERWHELMING RESOURCES

Border security is the only effective disincentive to prevent migrants from making the dangerous journey and reducing the influx of vulnerable families.

60,000

***Unaccompanied children
arriving in FY18***

*An increase of **25%***

161,000

***Family units
arriving in FY18***

*An increase of **50%***

*More children and families are being apprehended between the ports of entry than ever before. **For the first time in history, family units and children comprise the vast majority of apprehensions.***

*Over the last five years, we have seen a **2,000% increase in asylum claims**, yet 72% of migrants report making the journey for economic reasons and therefore would not typically qualify for asylum.*



A DANGEROUS JOURNEY ADDS TO A HUMANITARIAN CRISIS

The exponential increase in vulnerable populations arriving illegally takes vital resources away from detecting and apprehending criminals, drug traffickers, and vulnerable aliens.

50

Migrants per day referred to medical providers

4,300

People in distress rescued by CBP each year

31% and **17%**
of women and **of men**

Sexually assaulted on the journey north

Migrant Sickness

- Staggering numbers of sick people are crossing the border each day
- The danger of the journey, crowded conveyances, and flu season have resulted in significant referrals to medical providers

Abuse on the Journey

- Large populations are abused on the journey by smugglers and others
- 7 in 10 are victims of violence along the journey



DETENTION, ADJUDICATION, AND REMOVAL CHALLENGES

Detention Challenges

- Lack of capacity to detain those apprehended
- Facilities are out of space and Congressional budgets propose cutting further

Adjudication Challenges

- Immigration court backlog of nearly 800,000 cases
- Only 1 in 10 asylum claims granted for persons from Northern triangle countries
- Fraudulent claims delay legitimate claims from being heard– delaying protections for those who need them

Removal Challenges

- In just three days, CBP apprehends more families than are removed in one year
- The result is often a release with a notice to appear at a hearing
- Communities and charities are having trouble keeping up
- 98% of Family Units and Unaccompanied Alien Children are never removed



SOLUTIONS NEEDED

FUND THE WALL

Fully funding a border wall system will enable DHS to build primary wall or physical barriers in the areas of greatest need, adding a proven asset to our ability to deter and apprehend those entering illegally.

AMEND THE TVPRA

Allow the U.S. Government to treat Unaccompanied Alien Children the same, no matter where they come from.

OVERRIDE THE FLORES SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT

Allow the U.S. Government to keep parents and children together for the duration of their immigration proceedings.

