

111TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 1655

To enhance the safety of ports of entry in the United States, and for
other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

MARCH 19, 2009

Mr. REYES (for himself, Mr. GRIJALVA, Mr. RODRIGUEZ, Mr. ORTIZ, Mr. FILLNER, Mr. TEAGUE, Mr. CUELLAR, Ms. GIFFORDS, Mr. BILBRAY, Mr. ROHRABACHER, Mr. MITCHELL, Mr. PASTOR of Arizona, Mr. HINOJOSA, Mr. ABERCROMBIE, Mr. DOGGETT, Mr. GENE GREEN of Texas, Ms. JACKSON-LEE of Texas, Mr. LANGEVIN, Mrs. NAPOLITANO, Mr. ROTHMAN of New Jersey, Mr. STUPAK, Mr. BACA, Mr. BLUMENAUER, Mrs. DAVIS of California, Mr. GONZALEZ, Mr. HONDA, Mr. KLEIN of Florida, Mr. MCINTYRE, Mr. RUPPERSBERGER, and Mr. SIRES) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Agriculture, and Transportation and Infrastructure, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To enhance the safety of ports of entry in the United States,
and for other purposes.

1 *Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representa-*
2 *tives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Putting Our Resources
5 Towards Security (PORTS) Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. INCREASE IN NUMBER OF CUSTOMS AND BORDER**
2 **PROTECTION OFFICERS.**

3 (a) CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION OFFI-
4 CERS.—During the 5-year period between fiscal years
5 2010 and 2014, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall,
6 subject to the availability of appropriations for such pur-
7 pose, increase by not fewer than 5,000 the total number
8 of full-time, active-duty Customs and Border Protection
9 Officers within United States Customs and Border Protec-
10 tion for posting at United States ports of entry above the
11 number of such officers for which funds were made avail-
12 able during fiscal year 2009.

13 (b) AGRICULTURE SPECIALISTS.—During the 5-year
14 period between fiscal years 2010 and 2014, the Secretary
15 of Homeland Security shall, subject to the availability of
16 appropriations for such border security purposes, increase
17 by not fewer than a total of 1,200 the number of full-
18 time Customs and Border Protection agriculture special-
19 ists for United States ports of entry above the number
20 of such support personnel for which funds were made
21 available during fiscal year 2009.

22 (c) BORDER SECURITY SUPPORT PERSONNEL.—
23 During the 5-year period between fiscal years 2010 and
24 2014, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall, subject
25 to the availability of appropriations for such purpose, in-
26 crease by not fewer than a total of 350 the number of

1 full-time border security support personnel for United
2 States ports of entry above the number of such support
3 personnel for which funds were made available during fis-
4 cal year 2009.

5 **SEC. 3. IMPROVING PORTS OF ENTRY FOR BORDER SECU-**
6 **RITY AND OTHER PURPOSES.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—There are authorized to be appro-
8 priated to the Administrator of the General Services Ad-
9 ministration \$1,000,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2010
10 through 2014 to make improvements to existing ports of
11 entry in the United States to improve border security and
12 for other purposes.

13 (b) PRIORITY.—In making improvements described
14 in subsection (a), the Administrator of the General Serv-
15 ices Administration, in coordination with the Commis-
16 sioner of Customs and Border Protection, shall give pri-
17 ority to the ports of entry that the Administrator deter-
18 mines are in most need of repair to improve border secu-
19 rity and for other purposes in accordance with port of
20 entry infrastructure assessment studies required in section
21 603 of title VI, division E, of the Consolidated Appropria-
22 tions Act of 2008 (Public Law 101–161).

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