

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7402

To reimburse the State of Texas for expenses incurred for activities conducted relating to securing the southern international border of the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 15, 2024

Mr. WILLIAMS of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To reimburse the State of Texas for expenses incurred for activities conducted relating to securing the southern international border of 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 “Operation Lone Star
5 Reimbursement Act”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

1 (1) The Federal Government is primarily re-
2 sponsible for securing the borders of the United
3 States at and between ports of entry.

4 (2) Due to the lack of action by the Federal
5 Government, the State of Texas has been forced to
6 continually appropriate funds to secure the southern
7 border of the United States.

8 (3) Texas has taken these actions to help main-
9 tain safety and security for all citizens across the
10 United States by protecting against the criminal
11 acts of—

12 (A) human trafficking;

13 (B) sex trafficking;

14 (C) drug proliferation;

15 (D) illicit movement of weapons and con-
16 traband;

17 (E) criminal organizations; and

18 (F) unlawful entry.

19 (4) The amount the State of Texas spent on
20 border security to combat these criminal acts was—

21 (A) more than \$800,000,000 in the years
22 2020 through 2021; and

23 (B) more than \$2,926,400,000 in the
24 years 2022 through 2023.

1 (5) The State of Texas plans to spend an addi-
2 tional \$4,600,000,000 to secure the border in the
3 years 2024 through 2025.

4 **SEC. 3. REIMBURSEMENTS FOR THE STATE OF TEXAS.**

5 (a) APPLICATION FOR REIMBURSEMENT.—The Gov-
6 ernor of Texas shall submit to the Secretary of Homeland
7 Security and the Secretary of the Treasury an application
8 for reimbursement, which shall include—

9 (1) a list of expenses incurred by the State of
10 Texas for activities conducted relating to securing
11 the southern international border of the United
12 States during the years 2020, 2021, 2022, 2023,
13 and 2024; and

14 (2) the total amount of expenses incurred for
15 such activities.

16 (b) REIMBURSEMENT.—Not later than 60 days after
17 the State of Texas submits an application for reimburse-
18 ment pursuant to subsection (a), the Secretary of the
19 Treasury shall pay to the State of Texas, out of any
20 amounts in the Treasury not otherwise appropriated, an
21 amount equal to the total amount of expenses described
22 in subsection (a)(2).

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