

118TH CONGRESS  
2D SESSION

# H. R. 7479

To authorize certain States to take certain actions on certain Federal land to secure an international border of the United States, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 29, 2024

Mr. ROUZER (for himself, Mr. McCAUL, and Mr. PFLUGER) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Natural Resources, and in addition to the Committee on Agriculture, 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

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## A BILL

To authorize certain States to take certain actions on certain Federal land to secure an 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. PLACEMENT OF MOVABLE, TEMPORARY**  
4 **STRUCTURES ON CERTAIN FEDERAL LAND**  
5 **TO SECURE AN INTERNATIONAL BORDER OF**  
6 **THE UNITED STATES.**

7 (a) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

1           (1) BORDER STATE.—The term “Border State”  
2 means a State that is adjacent to the northern bor-  
3 der or southern border.

4           (2) FEDERAL LAND.—The term “Federal land”  
5 means land under the jurisdiction and management  
6 of a Federal land management agency that is adja-  
7 cent to the northern border or southern border.

8           (3) FEDERAL LAND MANAGEMENT AGENCY.—  
9 The term “Federal land management agency”  
10 means—

11                   (A) the Bureau of Indian Affairs;

12                   (B) the Bureau of Land Management;

13                   (C) the Bureau of Reclamation;

14                   (D) the Forest Service;

15                   (E) the United States Fish and Wildlife  
16 Service; and

17                   (F) the National Park Service.

18           (4) NORTHERN BORDER.—The term “northern  
19 border” means the international border between the  
20 United States and Canada.

21           (5) OPERATIONAL CONTROL.—The term “oper-  
22 ational control” has the meaning given such term in  
23 section 2(b) of the Secure Fence Act of 2006 (8  
24 U.S.C. 1701 note; Public Law 109–367).

1           (6) SECRETARY CONCERNED.—The term “Sec-  
2       retary concerned” means—

3           (A) the Secretary of the Interior, with re-  
4       spect to Federal land under the jurisdiction and  
5       management of the Secretary of the Interior,  
6       acting through, as applicable—

7           (i) the Director of the Bureau of In-  
8       dian Affairs;

9           (ii) the Director of the Bureau of  
10       Land Management;

11          (iii) the Commissioner of Reclamation;

12          (iv) the Director of the United States  
13       Fish and Wildlife Service; and

14          (v) the Director of the National Park  
15       Service; and

16       (B) the Secretary of Agriculture, with re-  
17       spect to National Forest System land, acting  
18       through the Chief of the Forest Service.

19       (7) SOUTHERN BORDER.—The term “southern  
20       border” means the international border between the  
21       United States and Mexico.

22       (b) SPECIAL USE AUTHORIZATION.—Subject to sub-  
23       section (c), the Secretary concerned shall not require a  
24       Border State to obtain a special use authorization for the  
25       temporary placement on Federal land within the Border

1 State of a movable, temporary structure for the purpose  
2 of securing the northern border or southern border, if the  
3 Border State submits to the Secretary concerned notice  
4 of the proposed placement not later than 45 days before  
5 the date of the proposed placement.

6 (c) TEMPORARY PLACEMENT.—

7 (1) IN GENERAL.—A movable, temporary struc-  
8 ture described in subsection (b) may be placed by a  
9 Border State on Federal land in accordance with  
10 that subsection for a period of not more than 1 year,  
11 subject to paragraph (2).

12 (2) EXTENSION.—

13 (A) IN GENERAL.—The period described in  
14 paragraph (1) may be extended in 90-day incre-  
15 ments, on approval by the Secretary concerned.

16 (B) CONSULTATION REQUIRED.—The Sec-  
17 retary concerned shall consult with the Commis-  
18 sioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection  
19 for purposes of determining whether to approve  
20 an extension under subparagraph (A).

21 (C) APPROVAL.—The Secretary concerned  
22 shall approve a request for an extension under  
23 this paragraph if the Commissioner of U.S.  
24 Customs and Border Protection determines that  
25 operational control has not been achieved as of

1 the date of the consultation required under sub-  
2 paragraph (B).

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