

[Home](#) • [Briefing Room](#) • [Statements & Releases](#)

Search WhiteHouse.gov

**The White House**

Office of the Press Secretary

For Immediate Release

June 05, 2012

## Statement by the Press Secretary on the President Signing the Border Tunnel Prevention Act of 2012

Today the President signed the Border Tunnel Prevention Act of 2012, which builds on past efforts to criminalize the construction or financing of unauthorized tunnels across an international border. The Administration appreciates the leadership of Congressman Silvestre Reyes and Senator Feinstein, which led to the passage of the bill. Today's bill signing is one more step in the Obama Administration's efforts to strengthen our nation's border security to deter and prevent smuggling, trafficking, and illegal immigration, while safeguarding and encouraging the efficient flow of lawful trade, travel, and immigration.

Over the last three and a half years, this Administration has dedicated unprecedented resources to our borders with real and significant results. Our borders are more secure than ever. We have nearly doubled the number of Border Patrol agents since 2004, Department of Homeland Security unmanned aerial capabilities now cover the Southwest border from California to Texas for the first time ever, and apprehensions along that border reflect far fewer attempts to cross illegally while seizures of illegal currency, drugs, and guns are dramatically up – leading to increased criminal arrests and prosecutions. Today, the Department of Homeland Security released the first unified Northern Border Strategy that provides a framework to enhance security and resiliency while expediting lawful travel and trade.



[View the To-Do List](#)

### BLOG POSTS ON THIS ISSUE

June 05, 2012 6:55 PM EDT

#### [Vice President Discusses College Affordability with College and University Officials](#)



Ten colleges and universities have committed that they will provide students with key information they need to make smart choices regarding where to go to school and how to pay for their degree

June 05, 2012 4:24 PM EDT

#### [Congress Says No to Equal Pay](#)

President Obama vows that his Administration will continue to fight for a woman's right for equal pay for equal work, so that hard work pays off, responsibility is rewarded, and every American gets a fair shot to succeed.

June 05, 2012 3:20 PM EDT

#### [By the Numbers: \\$26,000](#)

Today's college students graduate with an average of \$26,000 in student loan debt. A quality higher education is a sound investment, which is why students should have access to clear information about the costs and benefits of the school they choose and the financial aid they receive before enrolling or taking out loans.

[VIEW ALL RELATED BLOG POSTS](#)

<a href="#">Facebook</a>	<a href="#">YouTube</a>
<a href="#">Twitter</a>	<a href="#">Vimeo</a>
<a href="#">Flickr</a>	<a href="#">iTunes</a>