



Congress Must NOT Fund President Trump's Mass Deportation Agenda

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On July 11, 2017, the House Appropriations Committee released its draft Department of Homeland Security (DHS) Appropriations bill for fiscal year (FY) 2018, which passed out of the subcommittee on July 12 and is expected to come before the full committee on July 18. The bill as passed would fund the Trump Administration's plan to dramatically increase immigration enforcement and border security in furtherance of its massive deportation agenda. President Trump requested \$44.1 billion in his fiscal 2018 budget proposal, and this bill comes in slightly *over* at \$44.3¹ billion in funding for DHS.

AILA urges Congress to oppose this bill to prevent even more apprehensions and deportations of children, family members and others with strong ties to the United States. Currently border apprehensions are at an all-time low, yet this DHS bill would allow for billions of dollars to be spent on building an ineffective border wall, adding unnecessary immigration enforcement agents and officers, and further increasing detention bed space.

Department of Homeland Security

Trump's Request	\$44.1 billion
DHS Bill	\$44.3 billion

Immigration and Customs Enforcement

Trump's Request	\$7.6 billion
DHS Bill	\$7.0 billion (\$619.7 million above the fiscal year 2017 enacted level)

ICE Detention Beds:

Trump's Request	51,379 detention beds
DHS Bill	44,000 detention beds

The total annual cost for ICE detention annually is currently over \$2 billion. This bill would allow DHS to increase ICE detention bed capacity to an all-time high of 44,000 beds maintained throughout the year. This represents a dramatic increase in detention beds, even though it does not completely fund the Administration's request to fund 51,379 beds. The previous administration's fiscal year 2017 funding request was for 30,913 detention beds.

This dramatic increase in beds would come at a time when the Administration is also planning to dispense with national standards that ensure safe and human detention conditions. With border apprehensions

¹ The appropriation information provided in this document was obtained from a press release by the House Appropriations Committee available here: <https://appropriations.house.gov/news/documentsingle.aspx?DocumentID=394983>

down, the Administration will fill these beds with individuals apprehended in the interior. The Administration has signaled that ICE is to detain nearly everyone it apprehends—making no exceptions for children, the elderly, the disabled or pregnant women.

Immigration Enforcement Officers:

Trump's Request	1000 officers
DHS Bill	1000 officers

In the past 14 years from fiscal year 2002 to 2016, the number of ICE officers focused on removal operations nearly tripled. Yet this bill would allow for the hiring of an additional 1000 new ICE officers – an unnecessary increase given the agency's rapid growth in personnel. The dramatic increase in the number of ICE officers will mean a ramp up in deportations of children, DREAMers, family members, asylum seekers and long-time residents who pose no threat to public safety. Already under this Administration ICE officers are instructed to take action against all undocumented immigrants they may encounter, without regard to the personal circumstances or equities in each case.

287(g):

Trump's Request	26 new communities to be added
DHS Bill	26 new communities to be added

Section 287(g) of the Immigration and Nationality Acts allows localities to enter into agreements with DHS to deputize their local police to enforce federal immigration law. The 287(g) program allows state and local police and sheriffs to act as immigration agents, diverting resources from the investigation of local crimes and confusing the public about local police agencies' functions and priorities. Investigation after investigation has found 287(g) agreements to result in rampant racial profiling and civil rights abuses. Particularly, DOJ investigations in Maricopa County, AZ found that sheriff's offices working under 287(g) agreements engaged in unconstitutional practices of racial profiling, unlawful detention, and arrests of Latinos. Yet, despite all of this information, the President asked for funds for 26 new communities to be added, and the DHS bill allows for such funds to be appropriated.

Customs and Border Protection

Trump's Request	\$13.93 billion
DHS Bill	\$13.8 billion (\$1.6 billion above the fiscal year 2017 enacted level)

Border Patrol Agents:

Trump's Request	500 Agents
DHS Bill	500 Agents

The bill would provide funding for 500 additional Border Patrol agents, exactly what President Trump requested. Again there is no justification for such an increase. The number of Border Patrol officers doubled from FY 2002 to FY 2016, and CBP has not been able to fill its currently funded positions as

many applicants struggle to pass the polygraph tested administered before hiring. With apprehension numbers down, and current agency openings unfilled, appropriating \$100 million to hire additional agents is a wasteful use of taxpayer dollars.

Border Wall:

Trump's Request	\$1.6 billion
DHS Bill	\$1.6 billion

The bill includes the \$1.6 billion requested by Trump that would fund portions of an unnecessary and operationally ineffective wall at our southern border. A layered system of physical barriers and border security technologies already exist at our southern border, and apprehension numbers have been at all time low over the last decade. CBP patrols every mile of the U.S. border daily, and in many places, can view nearly all attempts to cross the border in real time. Any additional construction of a wall across the southwest border will likely be in more remote areas of the border, costing more to construct and yielding fewer apprehensions. There has been no demonstrated attempt to show why constructing additional wall is necessary, yet this bill is committed to throwing millions of dollar to solve a problem that does not exist.

Other technology and infrastructure:

The bill also contains:

- \$131 million for new border technology
- \$106 million for new aircraft and sensors at the border