

## VOTE AGAINST H.R. 2, THE CHILD DEPORTATION ACT

Republicans have introduced a **cruel, extreme, unworkable** immigration and border security bill. It would wreck our economy, cripple our ports of entry, destroy the asylum system, criminalize visa overstays, force unaccompanied children into dangerous situations, jail families and children indefinitely, and create disorder at the border. With this bill, MAGA Republicans embrace the Trump Administration's failed, illegal, and immoral immigration and border policies.

- H.R. 2 makes it impossible to cross our borders between ports of entry and seek asylum—and also makes it much harder for Customs and Border Protection (CBP) to process asylum claims at ports of entry by blocking its use of technology (CBP One app) and barring funding for transporting asylum seekers from ports of entry. In markup, Homeland Security Republicans voted against authorizing 1,700 CBP Officers needed to interdict fentanyl, process migrants, and facilitate legitimate travel and trade at ports of entry. H.R. 2 also requires the State Department to reinitiate an agreement with Mexico to return to the failed Trump policy of Remain in Mexico (MPP), even though the Mexican government has rejected these agreements.
- H.R. 2 does nothing to stem the deadly flow of fentanyl, heroin, and methamphetamine into the United States. More than 90 percent of seizures of these drugs occur at U.S. ports of entry. Democrats take the fentanyl crisis seriously. We prioritized drug detection and funded more than \$400 million in non-intrusive inspection systems at the southwest land border. Over Republican opposition, Democrats also funded additional staffing for CBP in the 2023 omnibus, whose officers interdict drugs at ports of entry.
- This xenophobic bill impedes non-governmental entities, like religious non-profit organizations, who provide shelter, transportation, and legal assistance to children and families fleeing horrific conditions. This bill will sow chaos in disaster response by requiring FEMA's disaster management partners—like the Red Cross and Catholic Charities—to verify every individual's immigration status before providing critical, live-saving services.
- Although H.R. 2 calls for increasing Border Patrol staffing, it is a meaningless gesture when, just last month, House Republicans voted to cap non-defense discretionary funding (H.R. 2811) which, according to DHS, will result in the cutting of 2,400 CBP officers and agents.
- H.R. 2 strips all protections for unaccompanied children. It allows them to be detained for a month or more, limits their access to counsel, and sends them back into the hands of smugglers and those seeking to exploit them.
- H.R. 2 imposes nationwide E-Verify on all U.S. businesses, doing untold damage to the economy and resulting in billions of dollars in lost revenue. This mandate will cause huge disruptions in our nation's food system. At least half of on-the-field farmworkers lack immigration status. American farms will go under.
- MAGA Republicans are doubling down on a Trump's failed border strategy: wasting money on an ineffective and impractical border wall – a wall Mexico did not and will not pay for. Despite its enormous cost, migrants continue to climb over, cut through, and tunnel under the wall built by the Trump Administration. CBP spent \$2.6 million to repair 3,272 border wall breaches from fiscal years 2019 to 2021, and maintenance records show widespread damage which demonstrates the wall's limitations as a deterrent.
- **Republicans have resorted to lies, conspiracy theories, and political stunts**, instead of real solutions to fix our broken immigration system. If Republicans were serious about securing the border, they would work with Democrats to secure our ports of entry, expand legal pathways for migrants, and address the root causes of migration.
- Immigration reform is a complex problem that requires comprehensive solutions, and an **enforcement-only strategy simply doesn't work**. Democrats are ready to work with serious Republicans to pass meaningful changes, just as we did with the Farm Workforce Modernization Act and the American Dream and Promise Act.