

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 4574

To direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to enhance border security by seeking to expand partnerships with appropriate law enforcement entities in Mexico and Central American and South American countries to combat human smuggling and trafficking operations in Mexico and such countries, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 12, 2023

Mr. CORREA (for himself and Mr. HIGGINS of Louisiana) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, and the Judiciary, 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 direct the Secretary of Homeland Security to enhance border security by seeking to expand partnerships with appropriate law enforcement entities in Mexico and Central American and South American countries to combat human smuggling and trafficking operations in Mexico and such countries, 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,*

1 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

2 This Act may be cited as the “Cooperation on Com-  
3 battling Human Smuggling and Trafficking Act”.

4 **SEC. 2. DHS PARTNERSHIPS TO COMBAT HUMAN SMUG-**  
5 **GLING AND TRAFFICKING.**

6 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Secu-  
7 rity, in coordination with appropriate Federal partners,  
8 shall enhance border security by seeking to expand part-  
9 nerships with appropriate law enforcement entities in  
10 Mexico and Central American and South American coun-  
11 tries to combat human smuggling and trafficking oper-  
12 ations in Mexico and such countries, including through the  
13 following:

14 (1) The establishment or expansion of cross-  
15 border transnational criminal investigative units to  
16 identify, disrupt, and support the prosecution of  
17 human smuggling and trafficking operations.

18 (2) Enhanced participation in the Bilateral  
19 Human Trafficking Enforcement Initiative or suc-  
20 cessor initiative.

21 (3) Advanced training for certain investigators  
22 and prosecutors from Mexico and such countries.

23 (b) INVESTIGATION AND PROSECUTION OF HUMAN  
24 SMUGGLING AND TRAFFICKING.—The Secretary of  
25 Homeland Security shall seek to expand collaborative pro-  
26 grams involving Homeland Security Investigations that

1 are aimed at supporting the investigation and prosecution  
2 of human smugglers and traffickers targeting children and  
3 families that pose border security threats and operate at  
4 the southern land border of the United States, including  
5 the continuation and expansion of anti-trafficking coordi-  
6 nation teams.

7 (c) INFORMATION CAMPAIGN TO DETER MIGRA-  
8 TION.—

9 (1) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland  
10 Security shall carry out targeted public information  
11 campaigns to inform targeted migrant populations  
12 within Mexico, Central America, South America, and  
13 certain other countries with high migration rates re-  
14 garding the dangers of travel across Mexico to the  
15 United States. Such campaigns shall combat misin-  
16 formation and disinformation by transnational crimi-  
17 nal organizations and other nefarious actors regard-  
18 ing United States laws or policies.

19 (2) SPECIFICATIONS.—The information cam-  
20 paigns implemented pursuant to paragraph (1) shall,  
21 to the greatest extent possible—

22 (A) be targeted at populations and local-  
23 ities with high migration rates;

24 (B) employ a variety of communications  
25 media; and

1           (C) be developed in consultation with ap-  
2           propriate program officials of the Department  
3           of State and, as appropriate, Mexican, Central  
4           American, South American, and other appro-  
5           priate foreign governments, nonprofit or aca-  
6           demic entities, and representatives acting on be-  
7           half of targeted migrant populations, including  
8           repatriated migrants.

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