



COMMITTEE ON HOMELAND SECURITY

Ranking Member Bennie G. Thompson

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Joint Hearing Statement of Oversight, Investigations & Accountability Subcommittee

Ranking Member Shri Thanedar (D-MI)

Case-by-Case: Returning Parole to its Proper Purpose

April 8, 2025

We're supposedly here today to discuss the use of parole—let's cut to the chase.

My Republican colleagues are not interested in examining the use of parole. As they are fully aware, this Committee does not have jurisdiction over parole authority authorized by Congress. Republicans are really using this hearing to distract from the many failures of the Trump-Musk co-presidency, including the plunging stock market.

Republicans prefer to live in the past and perpetuate false claim about President Biden's use of parole programs. One witness even brought up President Obama's use of parole in their written testimony. Republicans must be really nervous he's going to run for a third term!

Since Republicans seem to enjoy history so much, let's go back to 1956. That's when President Eisenhower first used parole to help 30,000 Hungarians come to the U.S. after a failed revolt against communism. Parole has been used by every Republican and Democratic administration since. Parole programs reduce illegal border crossings, increase the U.S. workforce, and grow our economy.

Given the benefits, the public might be asking why Trump is terminating parole programs. Is it simply because he is on a revenge and retribution tour? Is it because he hasn't done enough already to shatter the economy? Or is it because he needs to turn parolees into undocumented migrants that Secretary Noem can then shackle and deport to a prison in El Salvador for a photo op. In just a matter of weeks, the Trump administration has spent hundred of millions of dollars to expand Guantanamo Bay, deploy naval destroyers to the southern border, and produce commercials thanking Trump for closing the border.

However, the border is still open, and Gitmo is empty. Trump's lies about the number of criminal migrants are evident and his mass deportation plan is an utter failure. Perhaps that is why he has become so desperate as to deport U.S. citizens, lawful residents, and university students exercising their first amendment rights all while ignoring court orders.

If my Republican colleagues want to investigate immigration abuses, there is no need to relitigate false claims from the past. President Trump's daily actions are a continual assault on the Constitution that warrant Congressional oversight. The American people are waiting for Republicans to do their job.

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