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(Original Signature of Member)

118TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R.

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To establish a Department of Homeland Security integrated border intelligence analytical cell and Joint Task Force to combat transnational criminal organizations exploiting migration surges, strengthen cross-border partnerships, and for other purposes.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Ms. SLOTKIN introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on \_\_\_\_\_

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# A BILL

To establish a Department of Homeland Security integrated border intelligence analytical cell and Joint Task Force to combat transnational criminal organizations exploiting migration surges, strengthen cross-border partnerships, 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,*

3 **SECTION 1. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “Border Security and  
5 Migrant Safety Act of 2023”.

1 **SEC. 2. BORDER SECURITY AND MIGRANT SAFETY.**

2 (a) DHS INTEGRATED BORDER INTELLIGENCE ANA-  
3 LYTICAL CELL.—The Secretary of Homeland Security  
4 shall establish within the National Targeting Center of  
5 U.S. Customs and Border Protection a dedicated intel-  
6 ligence cell focused on sharing information regarding con-  
7 centrated surges of migrants arriving at the land border  
8 of the United States, and illicit smuggling and trafficking  
9 that may pose a border security, homeland security, public  
10 health, or other threat to the land border of the United  
11 States. Such cell shall integrate intelligence capabilities  
12 from across the Department of Homeland Security to  
13 carry out the following:

14 (1) Develop intelligence products to improve the  
15 Department's ability to track, prepare for, and man-  
16 age in a humane and effective manner concentrated  
17 surges of migrants arriving along the land border of  
18 the United States.

19 (2) Report on transnational criminal organiza-  
20 tions exploiting migrating populations and migration  
21 routes to smuggle narcotics and other illicit goods  
22 across the land border of the United States.

23 (3) Support Federal efforts to dismantle or dis-  
24 rupt illicit smuggling and trafficking along the land  
25 border of the United States.

1           (4) Report on communications by transnational  
2 criminal organizations and other malicious actors  
3 that seek to encourage illicit migrant travel to the  
4 United States.

5           (5) Develop other related intelligence products  
6 that support the Department's border security oper-  
7 ations.

8           (b) DEPARTMENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY JOINT  
9 TASK FORCE TO COMBAT TRANSNATIONAL CRIMINAL OR-  
10 GANIZATIONS EXPLOITING MIGRATION SURGES.—

11           (1) IN GENERAL.—Notwithstanding subsection  
12 (b)(11) of section 708 of the Homeland Security Act  
13 of 2002 (6 U.S.C. 348), not later than 180 days  
14 after the date of the enactment of this Act, the Sec-  
15 retary of Homeland Security shall, pursuant to such  
16 section, establish a departmental Joint Task Force  
17 to conduct operations using personnel and capabili-  
18 ties of the Department of Homeland Security to  
19 combat human trafficking and smuggling along the  
20 land border of the United States for the purpose  
21 specified in clause (i) of subsection (b)(2)(A) of such  
22 section. Such task force shall—

23           (A) pay particular attention to  
24 transnational criminal organizations that target  
25 foreign nationals, particularly children and fam-

1            ilies, for smuggling and trafficking across the  
2            land border of the United States; and

3            (B) when appropriate, refer to the Attor-  
4            ney General for prosecution border-related  
5            criminal activity.

6            (2) PERFORMANCE METRICS.—Consistent with  
7            subsection (b)(9) of section 708 of the Homeland  
8            Security Act of 2002, the Secretary of Homeland  
9            Security shall establish and submit to the appro-  
10            priate congressional committees performance metrics  
11            to evaluate the effectiveness of the Joint Task Force  
12            established pursuant to paragraph (1). Such per-  
13            formance metrics shall include outcome-based  
14            metrics associated with efforts to combat human  
15            trafficking and smuggling across the land border of  
16            the United States, including information on effec-  
17            tiveness at identifying transnational criminal organi-  
18            zations engaged in such activity, the sharing of in-  
19            formation regarding such organizations, efforts to  
20            dismantle or disrupt such activity by such organiza-  
21            tions, and investigative contributions to the prosecu-  
22            tion of such organizations.

23            (3) QUARTERLY REPORTS TO CONGRESS.—Not  
24            later than four months after the establishment of  
25            the Joint Task Force pursuant to paragraph (1) and

1 every four months thereafter until such Joint Task  
2 Force is disbanded by the Secretary of Homeland  
3 Security in accordance with paragraph (4), the Di-  
4 rector of such Joint Task Force shall report to the  
5 appropriate congressional committees on the activi-  
6 ties of such Joint Task Force during the preceding  
7 four-month period.

8 (4) DISBANDING OF JOINT TASK FORCE.—The  
9 Secretary of Homeland Security shall—

10 (A) upon establishment of the Joint Task  
11 Force pursuant to paragraph (1), report to the  
12 appropriate congressional committees the cri-  
13 teria to be applied by the Secretary before mak-  
14 ing a determination to disband such Joint Task  
15 Force; and

16 (B) not later than 15 days prior to dis-  
17 banding such Joint Task Force, submit to such  
18 committees a justification relating thereto.

19 (5) APPROPRIATE CONGRESSIONAL COMMIT-  
20 TEES DEFINED.—In this subsection, the term “ap-  
21 propriate congressional committees” means the com-  
22 mittees specified in subparagraph (F) of section  
23 708(b)(6) of the Homeland Security Act of 2002.

1           (6) REPEAL OF SUNSET.—Paragraph (13) of  
2           section 708(b) of the Homeland Security Act of  
3           2002 is repealed.

4           (c) STRENGTHENING CROSS-BORDER PARTNER-  
5 SHIPS.—The Secretary of Homeland Security, in coordi-  
6 nation with the Secretary of State, shall expand partner-  
7 ship efforts with law enforcement entities in Canada, Mex-  
8 ico, Guatemala, Honduras, and El Salvador to combat  
9 human smuggling and trafficking in such countries, in-  
10 cluding through the following:

11           (1) Expansion of transnational criminal inves-  
12           tigative units to identify, disrupt, dismantle, and  
13           prosecute human smuggling and trafficking oper-  
14           ations.

15           (2) Participation in the Bilateral Human Traf-  
16           ficking Enforcement Initiative by U.S. Immigration  
17           and Customs Enforcement and the Department of  
18           Justice with their Mexican law enforcement counter-  
19           parts.

20           (3) Advanced training programs for investiga-  
21           tors and prosecutors from such countries.