

119TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. R. 7617

To provide funding for administrative expenses of the Department of Homeland Security during any lapse in appropriations during fiscal year 2026, to require that the Department be responsive to congressional offices during such a lapse in appropriations, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 20, 2026

Ms. JOHNSON of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Appropriations

A BILL

To provide funding for administrative expenses of the Department of Homeland Security during any lapse in appropriations during fiscal year 2026, to require that the Department be responsive to congressional offices during such a lapse in appropriations, 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. CONTINUED OPERATIONS OF THE DEPART-**
4 **MENT OF HOMELAND SECURITY.**

5 (a) ADMINISTRATIVE EXPENSES.—In the case of a
6 lapse in appropriations for the Department of Homeland
7 Security there are appropriated such amounts as may be

1 necessary for administrative expenses necessary for the
2 operation of the Department for the duration of the lapse
3 in appropriations, including the Department's Office of
4 Legislative Affairs and U.S. Immigration and Customs
5 Enforcement's Office of Congressional Relations.

6 (b) CONTINUED OPERATION.—With respect to any
7 lapse in appropriations occurring during fiscal year 2026,
8 the Secretary of Homeland Security shall, using amounts
9 appropriated pursuant to subsection (a), ensure that the
10 Department performs all functions that the Department
11 would perform in the absence of such a lapse, including
12 responding to communications transmitted to the Depart-
13 ment during such lapse by congressional offices.

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