H. R. 1561

To enhance the safety of ports of entry in the United States, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

April 14, 2011

Mr. Reyes (for himself, Mr. Bilbray, Mrs. Davis of California, Mr. Grijalva, Mr. Rothman of New Jersey, Mr. Cuellar, Mr. Hinojosa, Mr. Pastor of Arizona, Mr. Filner, Ms. Jackson Lee of Texas, Ms. Roybal-Allard, Mr. Gene Green of Texas, Mr. Doggett, Mr. Sablan, Mr. Baca, Ms. Eddie Bernice Johnson of Texas, Ms. Lee of California, Ms. Hirono, Mr. McCaul, and Mr. Calvert) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Agriculture, and Transportation and Infrastructure, 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

A BILL

To enhance the safety of ports of entry in the United States, 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 "Putting Our Resources
- 5 Toward Security (PORTS) Act".

SEC. 2. INCREASE IN NUMBER OF CUSTOMS AND BORDER

- 2 **PROTECTION OFFICERS.**
- 3 (a) Customs and Border Protection Offi-
- 4 CERS.—During the 5-year period between fiscal years
- 5 2012 and 2016, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall,
- 6 subject to the availability of appropriations for such pur-
- 7 pose, increase by not fewer than 5,000 the total number
- 8 of full-time, active-duty Customs and Border Protection
- 9 Officers within United States Customs and Border Protec-
- 10 tion for posting at United States ports of entry above the
- 11 number of such officers for which funds were made avail-
- 12 able during fiscal year 2010.
- 13 (b) AGRICULTURE SPECIALISTS.—During the 5-year
- 14 period between fiscal years 2012 and 2016, the Secretary
- 15 of Homeland Security shall, subject to the availability of
- 16 appropriations for such border security purposes, increase
- 17 by not fewer than a total of 1,200 the number of full-
- 18 time Customs and Border Protection agriculture special-
- 19 ists for United States ports of entry above the number
- 20 of such support personnel for which funds were made
- 21 available during fiscal year 2010.
- 22 (c) Border Security Support Personnel.—
- 23 During the 5-year period between fiscal years 2012 and
- 24 2016, the Secretary of Homeland Security shall, subject
- 25 to the availability of appropriations for such purpose, in-
- 26 crease by not fewer than a total of 350 the number of

- 1 full-time border security support personnel for United
- 2 States ports of entry above the number of such support
- 3 personnel for which funds were made available during fis-
- 4 cal year 2010.

5 SEC. 3. IMPROVING PORTS OF ENTRY FOR BORDER SECU-

- 6 RITY AND OTHER PURPOSES.
- 7 (a) In General.—There are authorized to be appro-
- 8 priated to the Administrator of the General Services Ad-
- 9 ministration \$1,000,000,000 for each of fiscal years 2012
- 10 through 2016 to make improvements to existing ports of
- 11 entry in the United States to improve border security and
- 12 for other purposes.
- 13 (b) Priority.—In making improvements described
- 14 in subsection (a), the Administrator of the General Serv-
- 15 ices Administration, in coordination with the Commis-
- 16 sioner of Customs and Border Protection, shall give pri-
- 17 ority to the ports of entry that the Administrator deter-
- 18 mines are in most need of repair to improve border secu-
- 19 rity and for other purposes in accordance with port of
- 20 entry infrastructure assessment studies required in section
- 21 603 of title VI, division E, of the Consolidated Appropria-
- 22 tions Act of 2008 (Public Law 101–161).