

114TH CONGRESS  
1ST SESSION

# H. R. 2060

To promote economic partnership and cooperation between the United States and Mexico, particularly in the areas of academic exchange, entrepreneurship, and infrastructure integration.

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## IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

APRIL 28, 2015

Mr. CUELLAR introduced the following bill; which was referred to the  
Committee on Foreign Affairs

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## A BILL

To promote economic partnership and cooperation between the United States and Mexico, particularly in the areas of academic exchange, entrepreneurship, and infrastructure integration.

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 “United States-Mexico  
5       Economic Partnership Act”.

6       **SEC. 2. PURPOSE.**

7       The purpose of this Act is to promote economic part-  
8       nership and cooperation between the United States and

1 Mexico, particularly in the areas of academic exchange,  
2 entrepreneurship, and infrastructure integration.

3 **SEC. 3. EXPANSION OF UNITED STATES-MEXICO ACADEMIC**  
4 **EXCHANGE PROGRAMS.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The President is authorized to ex-  
6 pand United States-Mexico academic exchange programs  
7 at the secondary, post-secondary, and post-graduate levels.

8 (b) PRIORITY.—The programs described in sub-  
9 section (a) should give priority to strengthening ties be-  
10 tween communities and academic institutions located in  
11 the covered United States-Mexico border region.

12 (c) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
13 gress that the programs described in subsection (a) should  
14 reflect the goals of the 100,000 Strong in the Americas  
15 Initiative and should seek to double the number of stu-  
16 dents studying in each other's country by not later than  
17 5 years after the date of the enactment of this Act.

18 **SEC. 4. ESTABLISHMENT OF UNITED STATES-MEXICO EN-**  
19 **TREPRENEURSHIP COOPERATION, TRAINING,**  
20 **AND MENTORING PROGRAMS.**

21 (a) IN GENERAL.—The President is authorized to es-  
22 tablish programs to support cooperation, training, and  
23 mentoring of entrepreneurs in the covered United States-  
24 Mexico border region. Such programs shall be imple-

1 mented in coordination with the 100,000 Strong in the  
2 Americas Initiative.

3 (b) ELEMENTS.—The programs described in sub-  
4 section (a) shall seek to carry out innovative projects  
5 through United States and Mexican academic institutions  
6 and businesses to assist prospective and developing entre-  
7 preneurs to strengthen their business skills and promote  
8 cooperation and joint business initiatives in the covered  
9 United States-Mexico border region.

10 (c) MATCHING FUNDS.—The programs described in  
11 subsection (a) should seek to ensure United States Gov-  
12 ernment funds are matched by private sector funds for  
13 purposes of carrying out such programs through the  
14 100,000 Strong in the Americas Initiative’s Innovation  
15 Fund.

16 (d) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
17 gress that the programs described in subsection (a) should  
18 reflect the goals of the 100,000 Strong in the Americas  
19 Initiative and should seek to provide not less than 100  
20 grants of not more than \$25,000 each for participants in  
21 the programs.

22 (e) FUNDING.—Amounts made available for “Edu-  
23 cational and Cultural Exchange Programs” shall be made  
24 available to carry out the programs described in subsection  
25 (a).

1 **SEC. 5. UNITED STATES-MEXICO ENERGY INFRASTRUC-**  
2 **TURE COORDINATION AND COOPERATION**  
3 **PROGRAMS.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—The President is authorized to  
5 promote United States-Mexico energy infrastructure co-  
6 ordination and cooperation through programs to support  
7 vocational-level education, internships, and exchanges be-  
8 tween the two countries particularly in the region in which  
9 the Eagle Ford Shale is located and in proximity to such  
10 region.

11 (b) ELEMENTS.—The programs described in sub-  
12 section (a) shall seek to promote energy extraction related  
13 skills that can be provided by educational institutions lo-  
14 cated in the region described in subsection (a) or in prox-  
15 imity to such region, including by seeking to provide such  
16 skills to individuals in Mexico who are seeking vocational  
17 level jobs in Mexico’s energy sector.

18 (c) SENSE OF CONGRESS.—It is the sense of Con-  
19 gress that the programs described in subsection (a) should  
20 seek to provide education, internships, and exchanges for  
21 at least 1,000 participants in the programs.

22 (d) FUNDING.—Amounts made available for “Edu-  
23 cational and Cultural Exchange Programs” shall be made  
24 available to carry out the programs described in subsection  
25 (a).

1 **SEC. 6. DEFINITIONS.**

2 In this Act:

3 (1) 100,000 STRONG IN THE AMERICAS INITIA-  
4 TIVE.—The term “100,000 Strong in the Americas  
5 Initiative” means the initiative established in March  
6 2011 by the United States Government to increase  
7 educational exchanges in the Western Hemisphere.

8 (2) COVERED UNITED STATES-MEXICO BORDER  
9 REGION.—The term “covered United States-Mexico  
10 border region” means those portions of the United  
11 States and Mexico that are within 100 kilometers of  
12 the international boundary between those countries.

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