

119TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4003

To direct the Secretary of Commerce to develop a national strategy for supporting economic opportunity in border communities, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JUNE 12, 2025

Mr. VASQUEZ (for himself and Mr. CISCOMANI) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Transportation and Infrastructure, and in addition to the Committee on Financial Services, 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 direct the Secretary of Commerce to develop a national strategy for supporting economic opportunity in border communities, 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 “Economic Opportunity
5 for Border Communities Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. NATIONAL STRATEGY FOR SUPPORTING ECONOMIC**
2 **OPPORTUNITY IN BORDER COMMUNITIES.**

3 (a) DEVELOPMENT OF NATIONAL STRATEGY.—The
4 Secretary shall develop a national strategy for supporting
5 economic opportunity in border communities.

6 (b) GOALS OF NATIONAL STRATEGY.—The goals of
7 the national strategy developed under subsection (a) are
8 the following:

9 (1) Increasing the number of jobs in border
10 communities, with a focus on the following indus-
11 tries:

12 (A) Logistics.

13 (B) International trade.

14 (C) Manufacturing.

15 (D) Transportation.

16 (E) Agriculture.

17 (2) Strengthening United States competitive-
18 ness in manufacturing.

19 (3) Reducing the costs of exports and imports.

20 (4) Increasing the number of opportunities for
21 workforce development, including by providing voca-
22 tional training for the industries described in para-
23 graph (1).

24 (c) CONTENT OF NATIONAL STRATEGY.—The na-
25 tional strategy developed under subsection (a) shall in-
26 clude the following:

1 (1) Assessment of incentives, including tax in-
2 centives, for economic development in border com-
3 munities.

4 (2) Recommendations for statutory or regu-
5 latory changes necessary to achieve the goals de-
6 scribed in subsection (b).

7 (3) Coordination with the Secretary of Housing
8 and Urban Development and the Secretary of Agri-
9 culture to evaluate the role of rural housing, infra-
10 structure, and economic development programs in
11 supporting economic development in border commu-
12 nities.

13 (4) Coordination with the Secretary of Trans-
14 portation to evaluate the role of highway and railway
15 infrastructure in supporting economic development
16 in border communities.

17 (d) REPORT.—Not later than 1 year after the date
18 of the enactment of this Act, the Secretary shall submit
19 to Congress a report on the national strategy developed
20 under subsection (a).

21 (e) DEFINITIONS.—In this section:

22 (1) BORDER COMMUNITY.—The term “border
23 community” means a municipality not more than 15
24 miles from a land port of entry.

- 1 (2) SECRETARY.—The term “Secretary” means
2 the Secretary of Commerce.

