

By Senator Ingoglia

11-00199B-24

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Senate Memorial

A memorial urging the Federal Government to secure the southern border of the United States and fix the legal immigration system.

WHEREAS, the Federal Government has failed to effectively enforce existing immigration laws, which has led to a surge in the number of unauthorized border crossings along the southern border of the United States, and

WHEREAS, United States Customs and Border Protection (CBP) reported 183,503 alien encounters along the southwest border of the United States in July 2023, which represents a stunning 357 percent increase as compared to July 2018, and

WHEREAS, CBP reported 231,529 alien encounters along the southwest border of the United States in October of 2023, and

WHEREAS, CBP reported 7,047,387 alien encounters along the southwest border of the United States since January 2020, and

WHEREAS, with the surge of unauthorized border crossings, numerous states, including Florida, have been burdened with a corresponding increase in violent crime, gang activity, the trafficking of dangerous drugs, such as fentanyl, sex trafficking, human trafficking, and the threat of infectious diseases, and

WHEREAS, the astronomical increase in the number of aliens flooding in through the southwest border has overwhelmed the resources of CBP, greatly increasing the threat of terrorism, given that there are more than 1 million people on the Federal Bureau of Investigation's Terrorist Screening Database, and

WHEREAS, at the same time, Secretary of Homeland Security

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30 Alejandro Mayorkas has increased the number of aliens seeking  
31 asylum who may be admitted into the United States through the  
32 ill-conceived expansion of usage of the CBP One mobile  
33 application, and

34 WHEREAS, most of the aliens processed through the CBP One  
35 mobile application will be released into the interior of the  
36 United States, regardless of whether they are granted parole or  
37 are claiming asylum, and

38 WHEREAS, with the expiration of the Title 42 policy enacted  
39 during the COVID-19 public health emergency, which allowed  
40 authorities to turn away migrants at the United States border,  
41 and the suspension of border wall system construction by the  
42 Biden Administration, illegal crossings along the southern  
43 border are likely to continue to increase, and

44 WHEREAS, order at the southern border has deteriorated to  
45 such an extent that several counties in Texas along the border  
46 of the United States and Mexico have declared states of  
47 emergency in response to the invasion of illegal aliens, and

48 WHEREAS, the myriad threats to our nation that result from  
49 the collapse of order and security at the southern border not  
50 only impose a tremendous fiscal burden on the taxpaying public  
51 but also have an emotional cost, as Americans' sense of security  
52 and safety within their own communities is compromised, not only  
53 in this state, but in every corner of this nation, and

54 WHEREAS, the policies of the Biden Administration at our  
55 southern border threaten the very foundation of the American way  
56 of life, NOW, THEREFORE,

57  
58 Be It Resolved by the Legislature of the State of Florida:

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60 That the Federal Government is urged to secure the southern  
61 border of the United States and fix the legal immigration  
62 system.

63 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Secretary of State dispatch  
64 copies of this memorial to the President of the United States,  
65 the President of the United States Senate, the Speaker of the  
66 United States House of Representatives, the Secretary of the  
67 United States Department of Homeland Security, and each member  
68 of the Florida delegation to the United States Congress.