

Appropriations Act of 2008

| Name of Document | Brief Description |
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| HOUSE REPORT 110-497: Report of the Committee on Rules to Accompany H. Res. 878 | The House report provides consideration of the Senate amendment of H.R. 2764 making supplemental appropriations for the Dept. of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 2008. The report outlines the amendments made by the Senate to the initial bill, and the subsequent amendments by the House. |
| Committee Print of the Committee on Appropriations U.S. House of Representatives on H.R. 2764/Public Law 110-161; Legislative Text and Explanatory Statement. AP 6/10/2008/BK.1: Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008 (Only Dept. Of Homeland Security) | The committee print includes legislative text of the bill and corresponding explanatory statements to each section of the bill. It explains the rationale for amendments and stipulations for funding. |
| SENATE REPORT 110-84: Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Bill, 2008 (To accompany S. 1644) | The Senate Report from the Committee on Appropriations favorably recommends the bill making appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 2008. The report outlines the appropriations directed to Border Security Fencing, Infrastructure, and Technology. |
| HOUSE REPORT 110-181: Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Bill, 2008 (To accompany H.R. 2638) | The House Report from the Committee on Appropriations makes appropriations for the Department of Homeland Security for the fiscal year ending Sept. 30, 2008. The report outlines the appropriations directed to Border Security Fencing, Infrastructure, and Technology. |
| Congressional Record (Volume 153, No. 194: Washington, Tuesday, December 18, 2007): S15823-S15836 | This portion of the Congressional Record addressed the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008. On S15823, it notes that the bill provides \$3 billion of emergency spending for border security. The record goes on to discuss the rationale for border enforcement noting "Because our borders are in need of additional enforcement to stem the tide of illegal immigration, the Senate voted 89 to 1 to approve an amendment with billions more for border security" and that "the bill invests in the security of our homeland and supports the men and the women who are on the front lines of protecting our communities. The Border Patrol will hire 3,000 more Border Patrol agents to protect our borders" on S15824. |

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| <p>Congressional Record (Volume 153, No. 194: Washington, Tuesday, December 18, 2007): S15843-S15888</p> | <p>This portion of the Congressional Record further addressed the Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008. Specifically, it discusses various programs funded by the Act. Starting on S15871, border security is discussed.</p> |
| <p>Congressional Record (Volume 153, No. 195: Washington, Tuesday, December 19, 2007): H16901-H16913</p> | <p>This section of the record provides discussion of H.R. 2764, Consolidated Appropriations Act, 2008 which makes appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs. The record has an extensive discussion of House members favoring and disfavoring the Senate amendments relating to the border wall for many reasons. Congressman Doolittle said he could not support the bill "due to the harm it causes to the completion of the border fence, which was authorized by Congress in the passage of the Secure Fence Act of 2006." This text can be found in H16906 through H16907. Congressman Hunter notes opposition to the bill for it "effectively guts the Secure Fence Act passed during the 109th Congress." on H16909.</p> |
| <p>Congressional Record (Volume 153, No.193: Washington, Monday, December 17, 2007): (H15519)</p> | <p>Record focuses on criticisms of the conditions attached to funds provided for border security.</p> |
| <p>Congressional Record (Volume 153, No.193: Washington, Monday, December 17, 2007): (H15523)</p> | <p>Record focuses on discussion arguing that additional funding for border security is a necessity since the American people are worried about the porous border and people entering the US illegally.</p> |
| <p>Congressional Record (Volume 153, No. 193): Washington, Monday, December 17, 2007): (H15528 et seq.)</p> | <p>Call up and discussion of H.R. 2764, making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs for the fiscal year ending September 30, 2008, and for other purposes, with the Senate amendment thereto. Includes text of Senate amendment.</p> |
| <p>Congressional Record (Volume 153, No.148: Washington, Tuesday, October 2, 2007): (S12406 – 12408)</p> | <p>Record indicates discussion of the Border Security First Act of 2007. Support for the bill includes discussion of the bill’s funding for 700 miles of fencing, additional bed space for detention, and funding for training of local enforcement to enforce immigration law.</p> |
| <p>Congressional Record (Volume 153, No.149: Washington, Wednesday, October 3, 2007): (S12481 – 12484)</p> | <p>Record focuses on discussions regarding Amendment No. 3117 (Graham Amendment) – requesting \$3 billion for funding border security. Discussions focus on the effectiveness of a double fence along the border, the need for additional detention space, and the need to train local law enforcement to enforce</p> |

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| | immigration laws. Discussions are also critical of the repeated requests for additional funding for border security. |
| Congressional Record (Volume 153, No.149: Washington, Wednesday, October 3, 2007): (S12512 – 12513) | Record focuses on discussion regarding Amendment No. 3176, providing local officials and the Secretary of Homeland Security greater involvement in the location of the border fence. |
| Congressional Record (Volume 153, No.149: Washington, Wednesday, October 3, 2007): (S12514) | Record focuses on discussions of Amendment No. 3198, legislation for an appropriations bill. Discussions focus on the disparity between securing the northern and southern borders, and the issue of racism as related to this disparity. |
| Congressional Record (Volume 153, No.149: Washington, Wednesday, October 3, 2007): (S12516 – 12518) | Record focuses on Amendment 3192, to fund Operation Jump Start to deploy the National Guard to the southern border. Discussions focus on the National Guard’s ability to enforce the law along the border, as well as provide the infrastructure support needed by the Border Patrol and local law enforcement. |

Secure Fence Act of 2006

| Name of Document | Brief Description |
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| Congressional Record (Volume 152, No.115): Washington, Thursday, September 14, 2006): (H6580 – H6596) | Record contains vote in the House on the Secure Fence Act of 2006 and discusses amendments made to the bill. Specifically discusses what operational control entails; location and structure of the fence on the southern border; execution of a study regarding the costs, necessity, and feasibility of a fence on the northern border; and authority to stop fleeing vehicles. Also includes debate for and against the fence. Specifically, discussions of why “good fences make good neighbors” (H6583); discussions of the need to focus on comprehensive immigration reform, and instead focus on more cost-effective measures, such as additional funding for Border Patrol, DEA, and detention beds instead; discussions regarding the environmental/ecological ramifications of the fence (H6591); discussions of proof of terrorists crossing the border (H6590). |
| Congressional Record (Volume 152, No.116): Washington, Monday, September 18, 2006): (S9685 – S9686) | Record includes discussion of the current ideological war the US is facing, that terrorists will exploit this porous border, and thus, the need for operational control. However, Congress still needs to address the “illegal immigrants” already in the US. |

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| <p>Congressional Record (Volume 152, No.117): Washington, Tuesday, September 19, 2006): (S9691 – S9692)</p> | <p>Record includes discussion of the infrastructure put in place since 2005 to secure the border. This includes increasing Border Patrol agents, ICE agents, detention beds so that when people are caught they are not released, additional funding for the Coast Guard and the creation of a Nuclear Deterrence Office.</p> |
| <p>Congressional Record (Volume 152, No.118): Washington, Wednesday, September 20, 2006): (S9739 – S9746)</p> | <p>Record includes discussion of HR 6061 picking up where prior efforts left off (funding to repair fences, replace Border Patrol equipment, additional funding for Coast Guard). Also, lengthy discussions for and against the bill, including discussions of the current broken immigration system; how to address current immigrants in the US; the benefits of fencing, as seen in San Diego; authority of local law enforcement officers to enforce immigration laws; and national security.</p> |
| <p>Congressional Record (Volume 152, No.119): Washington, Thursday, September 21, 2006): (S9863 – S9886)</p> | <p>Record includes discussion of the environmental impact of the fence and immigrants crossing the border – including destruction of vegetation and introduction of foreign parasites into water systems; difficulties in repairing the current fencing; the need for cameras instead of fencing in certain areas; the reduction of illegal crossings in the San Diego area due to the fence; and the effect the unchecked border has had on the increase of the methamphetamine epidemic in South and North Dakota.</p> |
| <p>Congressional Record (Volume 152, No.121): Washington, Monday, September 25, 2006): (S10054 – S10056)</p> | <p>Record includes discussion of the difficulties experienced in passing HR 6061. Also includes discussions of the success of the fence along the San Diego border and discussions that Middle Eastern immigrants have been crossing the border illegally.</p> |

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| <p>Congressional Record (Volume 152, No.124): Washington, Thursday, September 28, 2006): (S10431 – S10433)</p> | <p>Record includes discussion of the parallels of comprehensive immigration reform and amnesty; the negative effects of amnesty; discussion that fences do not work, we need a 21st century solution; discussion of the success of the San Diego border fence; discussion regarding concerns about the environmental impact of the fence; the fence labeled fiscally irresponsible.</p> |
| <p>Congressional Record (Volume 152, No.125) Washington, Friday, September 29, 2006): (S10518 – S10523)</p> | <p>Record includes discussion of immigration being a security, economic, and moral issue; HR 6061 does not address the 12 million immigrants present in the US; enforcement alone is not the solution; general concern for the cost effectiveness of the fence. Also, includes discussion of the success of the San Diego fence; as well as numerous newspaper articles discussing criticizing the fence and Congress' inability to fully address the complex immigration issue.</p> |
| <p>Congressional Record (Volume 152, No.125): Washington, Friday, September 29, 2006): (S10590 – S10591)</p> | <p>Record includes discussions of visit to the border areas in Texas and the lack of uniformity in securing those areas – these are seen as only partial attempts to secure the border and thus, the reason for their failure.</p> |
| <p>Congressional Record (Volume 152, No.125): Washington, Friday, September 29, 2006): (S10609 – 10616)</p> | <p>Record includes discussions explaining the failure to pass piecemeal legislation, including legislation authorizing local law enforcement to enforce immigration laws. Also, includes concerns of the broad power granted to DHS to take all necessary and appropriate measure to secure the border; discussion of the effects the fence will have on the Tohono O'odham Nation in Arizona; discussions of the flaws of S2611 (one version of a comprehensive immigration reform bill in 2006); discusses the need for comprehensive immigration reform; discusses how the fence is a quick fix to the immigration issue; also, discusses concerns over the cost and effectiveness of the fence.</p> |