

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

January 31, 2024

The Honorable Charles Schumer
Senate Majority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Senate Minority Leader
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Leader Schumer and Leader McConnell:

We, as members of the Senate Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee (HSGAC), strongly urge you to ensure that any proposed bill affecting border security undergo careful consideration by the committees of jurisdiction, including HSGAC. Any legislation impacting border security has significant consequences for our nation's security, immigration system, and taxpayers. It is imperative that Members of this body are afforded the opportunity to thoroughly review and consider any proposed changes.

Rushing a bill to the Senate floor without allowing adequate time for the committees of jurisdiction to deliberate on the legislation and conduct hearings with individuals possessing relevant expertise would be a significant oversight. We propose that key stakeholders, such as the Secretary of Homeland Security, Commissioner of U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), Chief of the U.S. Border Patrol, the Director of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), Director of U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), representatives from National Border Patrol Council (NBPC), and local officials from border states, among others, be granted the opportunity to testify publicly regarding any proposed border security provisions so that we can hear directly from the Biden administration on how they would implement the changes. Committee hearings would not only enhance transparency but also ensure that members are fully informed of the possible consequences prior to consideration on the Senate floor, including the financial implications and long-term effects.

Sincerely,



Rand Paul, M.D.
Ranking Member
U.S. Senate Committee on Homeland
Security and Governmental Affairs



Rick Scott
United States Senator

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510



Ron Johnson
United States Senator



Roger Marshall, M.D.
United States Senator



Josh Hawley
United States Senator

cc Chairman Gary Peters, Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs Committee