

**AMENDMENT TO H.R. 8146, AS REPORTED
OFFERED BY MR. VASQUEZ OF NEW MEXICO**

Page 4, insert after line 10 the following:

1 (9) The immigration system of the United
2 States has not been comprehensively updated since
3 1986.

4 (10) The right to seek asylum is a central pillar
5 of America's immigration system and a core value
6 we share as a Nation of immigrants.

7 (11) The consequence of our Nation's broken
8 immigration system is continued disruption in bor-
9 der communities.

10 (12) Schools, local governments, and States
11 have faced considerable hardships due to the inabil-
12 ity of Congress to pass meaningful immigration re-
13 form.

14 (13) The Secure Borders, Economic Oppor-
15 tunity and Immigration Reform Act of 2007 in-
16 cluded a pathway to citizenship, funding for border
17 security and personnel, and reforms to America's
18 visa system and was voted against by all voting Sen-
19 ate Republicans.

1 (14) In 2013, the “Gang of Eight” drafted the
2 bipartisan Border Security, Economic Opportunity,
3 and Immigration Modernization Act of 2013, which
4 included a pathway to citizenship, the DREAM Act,
5 and additional funding for Customs and Border Pro-
6 tection and passed the Senate on June 27, 2013,
7 but failed to pass Congress because House of Rep-
8 resentatives Speaker John Boehner did not allow a
9 vote on the House floor.

10 (15) H.R. 6, the American Dream and Promise
11 Act passed the House on June 4, 2019, but was
12 blocked by Senate Republicans in the 116th Con-
13 gress.

14 (16) H.R. 6, the American Dream and Promise
15 Act once again passed the House on March 18,
16 2021, but was blocked by Senate Republicans in the
17 117th Congress.

18 (17) Speaker Mike Johnson has refused to
19 bring forth H.R. 16, the American Dream and
20 Promise Act for a vote in the House despite 166 co-
21 sponsors in the 118th Congress.

22 (18) The Biden administration requested emer-
23 gency appropriations on August 10, 2023, to hire an
24 additional 1,300 border patrol agents; 375 immigra-
25 tion judge teams; 1,600 asylum officers; 1,000 Cus-

1 toms and Border Protection officers with a focus on
2 counter-fentanyl; and equip Southwest border ports
3 of entry with new cutting-edge detection technology.

4 (19) The bipartisan Emergency National Security Supplemental Appropriations Act was introduced in the Senate in February 2024, which included \$20,000,000,000 to support Customs and Border Protection, \$350,000,000 to support unaccompanied minors, funding for 4,338 new asylum officers, and \$424,500,000 to combat fentanyl smuggling along with significant changes to immigration policy such as establishing a new asylum process, creation of a new authority to limit entry into the United States, and an amended process for parole.

15 (20) Senator Mitch McConnell whipped his Republican Party against this bipartisan deal, Speaker Mike Johnson declared the legislation “dead on arrival” in the House of Representatives before any legislation had even been introduced, and Congressman Troy Nehls said “Why would we do anything to help him?” in reference to the President when asked about support for the bill.

Add at the end of the bill the following:

23 **SEC. 4. SENSE OF CONGRESS.**

24 It is the sense of Congress that Congress—

1 (1) condemns Republican inaction on common-
2 sense solutions to our Nation's broken immigration
3 system and the challenges our Nation faces at the
4 border;

5 (2) acknowledges that the interruption of lives
6 in border communities and across the Nation is due
7 to Republican's historical inaction to address our
8 Nation's broken immigration system;

9 (3) urges cooperation between Federal, State,
10 and local law enforcement, governments, and edu-
11 cation officials; and

12 (4) should fully fund resources for the border,
13 including asylum officers, immigration judges, secu-
14 rity personnel, and technology needs.

