

109TH CONGRESS
2^D SESSION

H. R. 6007

To address critical needs for additional resources, coordination between Federal, State, and local law enforcement, and supplemental funding, to support border security activities of State and local law enforcement agencies, including sheriffs, in regions near an international land border of the United States.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

JULY 28, 2006

Mr. McCAUL of Texas introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security

A BILL

To address critical needs for additional resources, coordination between Federal, State, and local law enforcement, and supplemental funding, to support border security activities of State and local law enforcement agencies, including sheriffs, in regions near an international land border of the United States.

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. BORDER AREA SECURITY INITIATIVES.**

4 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Secretary of Homeland Secu-
5 rity shall designate a high-threat area adjacent to an
6 international land border of the United States for a border

1 area security initiative if the area satisfies the criteria de-
2 scribed in subsection (c).

3 (b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of a designation under
4 subsection (a) shall be to provide State and local agencies,
5 including sheriffs, with the resources and capabilities nec-
6 essary—

7 (1) to assist the Secretary in gaining oper-
8 ational control over the border in the area;

9 (2) to address increased cross-border criminal
10 activity in the area; and

11 (3) to reduce the threats to national security
12 posed by opportunities for terrorists to enter the
13 United States at an international land border, made
14 apparent by the tragic events of September 11,
15 2001.

16 (c) DESIGNATION.—The criteria relating to area des-
17 ignations referred to in subsection (a) are as follows:

18 (1) A significant number of illegal aliens and
19 contraband are brought through the area.

20 (2) Law enforcement personnel are targets of
21 violence, or threats of violence, due to their border
22 security mission.

23 (3) State and local law enforcement agencies,
24 including sheriffs, have committed resources to re-
25 spond to the border security problems in the area,

1 thereby indicating a determination to respond ag-
2 gressively to the problems.

3 (4) Illegal activities linked to the area are hav-
4 ing a harmful impact in other parts of the country.

5 (5) High levels of crime in communities in or
6 near the area are directly linked to illegal border ac-
7 tivity.

8 (6) The risk or threat of terrorist activity,
9 based upon credible evidence.

10 (7) Any additional criteria determined to be ap-
11 propriate by the Secretary.

12 (d) POST-DESIGNATION ACTIVITIES.—After desig-
13 nating an area under subsection (a), the Secretary shall
14 undertake the following:

15 (1) The Secretary shall establish a border area
16 security initiative executive committee, comprised of
17 senior executives from interested local, State, and
18 Federal domestic security and law enforcement
19 agencies, including sheriffs, operating within the
20 designated area. This committee shall be responsible
21 for the development and execution of multi-agency
22 enforcement strategies and activities to support Fed-
23 eral border security missions in the area.

24 (2) The Secretary shall—

1 (A) provide for additional Federal re-
2 sources to be sent to the area, including per-
3 sonnel, fencing materials, barriers, cameras,
4 body armor, and any other material, technology,
5 or equipment as the Secretary, in consultation
6 with the border area security initiative executive
7 committee, may deem necessary;

8 (B) provide for the construction or acquisi-
9 tion of such temporary detention facilities in
10 the area as may be necessary; and

11 (C) to the extent consistent with appro-
12 priations Acts, provide funds to State and local
13 law enforcement entities, including sheriffs, op-
14 erating in the area, to be used in accordance
15 with subsection (e).

16 (e) USE OF FUNDS.—Funds provided to State and
17 local authorities, including sheriffs, under subsection
18 (d)(2)(C) may be used to carry out activities consistent
19 with the purpose described in subsection (b), including—

20 (1) operational expenses (such as transpor-
21 tation);

22 (2) personnel expenses, including overtime pay,
23 except that not more than 45 percent of such funds
24 may be used to hire new personnel; and

25 (3) equipment expenses.

1 (f) SUNSET.—A designation made under subsection
2 (a) shall expire on the date that is 5 years after the date
3 on which the designation takes effect.

4 (g) REPORTS.—The Secretary—

5 (1) shall notify the Committee on Homeland
6 Security of the United States House of Representa-
7 tives upon the designation of an area for a border
8 area security initiative; and

9 (2) shall report annually to such committee the
10 progress made in securing the border as a result of
11 such designation.

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