

118TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 712

To reimburse the States for border security expenses, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

FEBRUARY 1, 2023

Mr. CRENSHAW (for himself, Mr. ELLZEY, Mr. MORAN, Mr. PFLUGER, Mr. JACKSON of Texas, Mr. WEBER of Texas, Ms. DE LA CRUZ, Mr. ARRINGTON, Mr. ROY, Ms. VAN DUYNÉ, and Mr. BABIN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To reimburse the States for border security expenses, and
for other purposes.

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. SHORT TITLE.**

4 This Act may be cited as the “State Border Security
5 Reimbursement Act of 2023”.

6 **SEC. 2. FINDINGS.**

7 Congress finds the following:

8 (1) Border security is primarily a Federal re-
9 sponsibility.

1 (2) Due to failures of the Federal Government,
2 the State of Texas has been forced to provide re-
3 sources for border security.

4 (3) Since the 2008–2009 biennium budget,
5 Texas has allocated more than \$3,208,000,000 for
6 border security in Texas’ biennium budget
7 disaggregated, as follows:

8 (A) In 2008–2009, Texas allocated more
9 than \$110,000,000 for border security.

10 (B) In 2010–2011, Texas allocated more
11 than \$120,000,000 for border security.

12 (C) In 2012–2013, Texas allocated more
13 than \$222,100,000 for border security.

14 (D) In 2014–2015, Texas allocated more
15 than \$510,000,000 for border security.

16 (E) In 2016–2017, Texas allocated more
17 than \$800,000,000 for border security.

18 (F) In 2018–2019, Texas allocated more
19 than \$663,100,000 for border security.

20 (G) In 2020–2021, Texas allocated more
21 than \$782,800,000 for border security.

22 (H) For 2022–2023, the State of Texas
23 Legislative Budget Board is currently recom-
24 mending an additional \$797,100,000 for border
25 security.

1 (4) Citizens of border States are being taxed
2 twice for the same purpose.

3 (5) States using their taxpayer dollars and allo-
4 cating State budgets to meet public safety obliga-
5 tions, which fall under Federal responsibilities, im-
6 poses an undue burden on the State.

7 **SEC. 3. REIMBURSEMENT.**

8 (a) **QUALIFICATION.**—Notwithstanding any other
9 provision of law, States that have expended more than
10 \$2,500,000,000 on border security and enforcement in
11 support of Federal efforts in the ten years prior to the
12 date of the enactment of this Act shall have all associated
13 expenses reimbursed.

14 (b) **APPLICATION.**—Not later than 180 days after the
15 date of the enactment of this Act, the Governors of eligible
16 States shall submit—

17 (1) an accounting of all non-federally funded
18 border security expenses incurred by the State and
19 its municipalities; and

20 (2) the total sum of such expenses.

21 (c) **REIMBURSEMENT.**—Not later than 1 year after
22 the date on which the State submits the application pursu-
23 ant to subsection (b), the Federal Government shall reim-
24 burse such expenses pursuant to subsection (a).

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