Rep. Donalds Calls On The U.S. Customs And Border Protection To Bolster Security At The Border Through Biometrics

WASHINGTON – Congressman Byron Donalds issued the following statement introducing <u>legislation</u> to hold the U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) accountable for failing to fulfill its statutory directive to establish a comprehensive biometric entry/exit system.

"This year alone, CBP has encountered a record high of nearly 2.5 million illegal aliens entering our porous southern border. Since President Biden took office, there have been 7.5 million encounters, including 169 people on the terrorist watchlist. Not to mention the 25,000+ pounds of fentanyl that CBP has seized in FY23 alone. These facts are damning and are a direct result of this inept president's open border policies and purposeful neglect of the Trump-era measures that secured our border. My bill, H.R. 6138, is simple: it demands action and accountability of Secretary Mayorkas' department and addresses their statutory failure to establish a comprehensive biometric apparatus at our nation's points of entry." **- Rep. Donalds**

Representatives Clay Higgins (R-LA), Troy Nehls (R-TX), Randy Weber (R-TX), and Paul Gosar (R-AZ) are original cosponsors.

"CBP has a statutory directive to establish a comprehensive biometrics system to track illegals. America is being invaded and we're losing our country down there, it gets worse every day. Biden and Mayorkas should be tried for treason, it's that bad. This legislation demands transparency as to why the biometrics system has yet to be fully deployed by the CBP. We, the People, feel totally betrayed by our own government." **- Rep. Higgins**

Further Background:
- Biometric technologies support national security priorities (e.g., counterterrorism, fraudulent representation, & public safety).
- Biometric is an objective measurement of a physical characteristic when captured in a database that can be used to verify an individual's identity against other entries in a database.
  - Main types of biometrics—fingerprints, facial images, iris images, etc.
- In August 2004, the 9/11 Commission directed DHS to implement a comprehensive biometric entry/exit system.
  - 8 U.S.C. 1365a(d)(3) — Requires the federal government to "fully implement [an] integrated [biometric] entry & exit data system."
- CBP has processed more than 200 million travelers using biometric facial comparison technology and prevented more than 1,600 imposters from entering the United States.
- Until we have a comprehensive biometric entry and exit system—even if we have a 100% halt of illegal immigration at the southern border—our country will still continue to be infiltrated by an influx of illegal immigrants.

More:

<u>Florida GOP Lawmaker Reveals Plan To Expose Gaps In Biometrics System To Crack Down On Visa Overstays</u>

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