

118TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

H. RES. 1435

Raising concern about the proposed constitutional reforms in Mexico.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 10, 2024

Mr. STANTON (for himself and Ms. SALAZAR) submitted the following resolution; which was referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs

RESOLUTION

Raising concern about the proposed constitutional reforms
in Mexico.

Whereas the United States and Mexico are committed to strengthening bilateral and regional cooperation that benefits the people of the United States and Mexico;

Whereas the United States and Mexico are top trade partners, trading more than \$750,000,000,000 worth of goods in 2023;

Whereas United States companies directly invested \$130,300,000,000 into Mexico in 2022, and nearly 5,000,000 United States jobs depend on trade with Mexico;

Whereas the United States, Mexico, and Canada will participate in the first review of the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) in 2026;

Whereas Mexican President López Obrador proposed constitutional reforms on February 5, 2024, including a range of proposals to modify the Mexican judiciary;

Whereas some of these reforms were approved by a Chamber of Deputies committee vote on August 26, 2024, and could receive a vote by Mexico's Congress of the Union in September 2024;

Whereas Mexican Federal judges initiated a widespread and indefinite strike on August 21, 2024, in response to proposed judicial reforms;

Whereas Mexico's National Association of Circuit and District Judges, the Inter-American Dialogue, the Mexican Bar Association, the Global Enterprise Council, the United Nations Special Rapporteur on the Independence of Judges and Lawyers, the United States Chamber of Commerce, and thousands of striking Mexican Federal court employees and magistrates have voiced concerns with the proposed reforms;

Whereas, under proposed judicial reforms, all Federal judges, including Supreme Court Justices, would be directly elected, independent oversight of the judiciary would end, and judicial qualification standards would be reduced; and

Whereas broader constitutional reforms would—

- (1) eliminate autonomous oversight of social development policy and education; the energy, hydrocarbon, and telecommunications industries; and enforcement of anti-trust and transparency laws;

- (2) reduce the size, oversight capacity, and sanctions authority of Mexico's National Electoral Institute; and

(3) impose a prohibition on genetically modified corn: Now, therefore, be it

1 *Resolved*, That the House of Representatives—

2 (1) raises concern that the proposed constitu-
3 tional reforms would have a long-term negative im-
4 pact on Mexico’s democratic institutions, separation
5 of powers, judicial independence and transparency,
6 and security, while undermining its electoral system,
7 National Guard, and oversight agencies;

8 (2) expresses deep concern that the proposed
9 constitutional reforms may contradict commitments
10 made in the United States-Mexico-Canada Trade
11 Agreement, jeopardizing critical economic and secu-
12 rity interests shared by the United States and Mex-
13 ico;

14 (3) underscores that several aspects of the re-
15 form package undermine United States-Mexico joint
16 efforts to strengthen the rule of law, counter orga-
17 nized crime, and address the scourge of fentanyl and
18 human and arms trafficking among broader bilateral
19 priorities; and

20 (4) reaffirms its commitment to a robust, mu-
21 tually respectful relationship between the sovereign
22 countries of the United States and Mexico.

○