

116TH CONGRESS
1ST SESSION

H. R. 4276

To establish a minimum staffing level of U.S. Customs and Border Protection officials along the northern border, and for other purposes.

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

SEPTEMBER 10, 2019

Mr. HIGGINS of New York (for himself, Ms. STEFANIK, Mr. PETERSON, Mrs. RODGERS of Washington, Mr. WELCH, and Ms. SLOTKIN) introduced the following bill; which was referred to the Committee on Homeland Security, and in addition to the Committee on Ways and Means, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned

A BILL

To establish a minimum staffing level of U.S. Customs and Border Protection officials along the northern border, 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 “Border Officers Utili-
5 zation for National Defense Act of 2019” or the “BOUND
6 Act”.

1 **SEC. 2. MINIMUM U.S. CUSTOMS AND BORDER PROTECTION**

2 **STAFFING ALONG THE NORTHERN BORDER.**

3 (a) IN GENERAL.—Beginning on the date of the en-
4 actment of this Act, the Commissioner of U.S. Customs
5 and Border Protection shall ensure that not fewer than
6 the maximum number of U.S. Customs and Border Pro-
7 tection officers deployed along the international border be-
8 tween the United States and Canada (referred to in this
9 Act as the “northern border”) at any time between Janu-
10 ary 1, 2016, and such date of enactment are always de-
11 ployed along the northern border, including at ports of
12 entry along the northern border.

13 (b) LIMITATION ON TRANSFERS.—The Commissioner
14 of U.S. Customs and Border Protection may not transfer
15 any U.S. Customs and Border Protection officer away
16 from an assignment along the northern border, including
17 at ports of entry along the northern border, if such trans-
18 fer would reduce the number of such officers assigned to
19 the northern border below the level required under sub-
20 section (a).

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