



Tim Smith Border Briefing

What I Saw at the Border

- My visit to the southern border has shown just how dire this border crisis is. Not only do we face a national security crisis, but a humanitarian crisis as well. Speaking with border patrol agents and local leaders in El Paso, TX, this is what I learned:
 - Border patrol agents feel helpless. The Biden administration has failed our border agents by leaving them without the resources they need to protect our nation.
 - Open border policies are inhumane. There is suffering at our southern border because Joe Biden is allowing cartels to take advantage of desperate families. The stories told by border agents of women and children being exploited by the cartels for profit are absolutely devastating.

Joe Biden's Policies Have Created the Border Crisis

- Since taking office in 2021, the Biden administration has dismantled the Trump administration's immigration policies that put America first and kept our nation safe.
 - Joe Biden halted construction of the border wall.
 - Joe Biden ended the Remain in Mexico policy, allowing migrants encountered at the border to be released into the United States with asylum hearings years down the road. "Catch-and-release" border policies have contributed greatly to the influx of illegal migration.
 - Joe Biden has abused the immigration parole, a federal provision that gives the President the power to allow illegal immigrants who would not qualify for legal entrance to stay in the country temporarily. There were just 5,623 parolees per year under both the Obama and Trump administrations. That number has skyrocketed to 1.2 million parolees in 2023.
- These are policies controlled by the executive branch that have welcomed millions of illegal migrants into our country. The Biden administration could reverse course tomorrow and end this border crisis.
 - Under President Trump, there was an average of 490,000 illegal border crossings each year. Under President Biden, that number has skyrocketed to 1.96 million illegal crossings.



The Threat of Our Open Border

- The number of individuals on the terror watchlist crossing our border has also skyrocketed under the Biden administration. Only 11 people on the terror watchlist were encountered at the southern border under President Trump. That number skyrocketed to 169 people last year under Biden. Our adversaries see America's open borders as a vulnerability. We cannot wait until disaster strikes. We must secure our border now.

Solutions

- The policies of the Trump administration were successful in keeping our nation safe and our border secure. We must restore these common sense solutions to secure the border:
 - **Secure the Border:** Finishing the border wall is the best way to stop illegal immigration and prevent dangerous individuals from entering our country. I will also back efforts to improve inspections at legal ports of entry and ensure our northern border remains safe. America's enemies will look at every option possible to enter our country. We must keep our borders secure.
 - **Deputize Law Enforcement:** Our country is being invaded, and the federal government refuses to act. I support deputizing law enforcement to arrest illegal immigrants so we can keep our communities safe and stop allowing illegals to stay in our country without consequences.
 - **Defund Sanctuary Cities:** Municipalities that violate federal law and threaten the safety of our citizens should not receive federal funding.
 - **Hire ICE Agents:** During my border visit, I heard firsthand from ICE agents who are overwhelmed because of Biden's failures. I support hiring 10,000 more ICE agents to keep America safe.
 - **End Incentives for Illegal Immigration:** Allowing illegal immigrants to take American jobs and receive government benefits puts Americans last and encourages illegal immigration.
 - **End Birthright Citizenship:** Birthright citizenship provides another incentive for people to enter illegally. I will back H.R. 4864 to end citizenship fraud and discourage illegal immigration.
 - **Vote Biden Out:** The influx of illegal immigrants is because of policies controlled by the White House. Joe Biden ended the Remain in Mexico and has abused his parole authority, allowing millions of illegals into our country. We cannot secure the border without returning President Trump to the White House.