

REFERENCE TITLE: border wall; construction materials; repurpose

State of Arizona
House of Representatives
Fifty-fifth Legislature
Second Regular Session
2022

HR 2004

Introduced by
Representatives Blackman: Payne

A RESOLUTION

SUPPORTING FEDERAL LEGISLATION TO TRANSFER FEDERALLY OWNED MATERIALS TO
BORDER STATES TO CONSTRUCT A BORDER WALL.

(TEXT OF BILL BEGINS ON NEXT PAGE)

1 Whereas, in 2017, President Donald Trump issued an executive order
2 to secure the southern border of the United States by planning, designing
3 and constructing a physical wall at the southern border using appropriate
4 materials and technology to prevent illegal immigration, drug and human
5 trafficking and acts of terrorism; and

6 Whereas, in 2019 President Trump went further, declaring a national
7 emergency at the southern border, which diverted billions of dollars in
8 defense funds to build the wall; and

9 Whereas, the wall has been effective in impeding illegal drug
10 activities, border crossings and other crimes that jeopardize innocent
11 lives in areas where the barriers have been raised; and

12 Whereas, on January 20, 2021, President Joe Biden terminated the
13 national emergency related to the southern border, including pausing the
14 construction of the wall at the border; and

15 Whereas, President Biden's proclamation also directed the United
16 States Secretary of Defense and the United States Secretary of Homeland
17 Security to develop a plan to redirect monies concerning the southern
18 border wall; and

19 Whereas, contracts had already been signed and millions of dollars
20 of materials, including steel, light poles and rebar, have been delivered
21 to the southern border to construct the wall. These materials have been
22 rusting, unused in the desert heat, requiring even more monies for site
23 maintenance and security; and

24 Whereas, a plan does not currently exist regarding using the
25 remaining materials; and

26 Whereas, although the Trump administration completed 455 miles of
27 new barriers along the border, many sections remain unfinished; and

28 Whereas, border fences are an essential element in stemming illegal
29 cross-border traffic; and

30 Whereas, a robust strategy is necessary to curtail this reckless
31 misuse of materials; and

32 Whereas, H.R. 5810, introduced in the United States House of
33 Representatives, allows the United States Army and the Department of
34 Homeland Security to transfer unused materials obtained for the border
35 wall to Arizona, New Mexico and Texas to construct a border wall in each
36 state; and

37 Whereas, this prudent legislation will ensure that the materials
38 already bought and paid for with taxpayer money will be used to secure the
39 southern border.

40 Therefore

41 Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona:

42 1. That the Members of the House of Representatives support federal
43 legislation to transfer unused federally owned materials to this state,
44 New Mexico and Texas.

45 2. That the Members of the House of Representative support using
46 these materials to construct a wall along the southern border.