

In one week, the midterm elections will be over, and Congress will turn its attention to a lame duck session. There will be [several areas of potential policy efforts](#) that Heritage Action will engage, but front and center will be an end-of-year funding bill for the Department of Homeland Security. **It is crucial that a DHS funding bill contain provisions that will reinforce the rule of law along our southern border.**

Likely voters in this year's midterm elections [strongly support President Trump's efforts](#) to [secure our border with Mexico](#) as [caravans of immigrants](#) seek to enter the United States. With these events as the backdrop, **it is imperative that Congress work with President Trump to enforce our laws instead of ignoring border security.**

The DHS funding bill should contain the following:

- **Border Wall:** [fully fund the President's request for the border wall.](#)
- **Internal Enforcement:** [penalize sanctuary cities; end "catch and release"; prosecute employers who hire illegal immigrants; and make being unlawfully present a criminal violation.](#)
- **Legal Immigration Reform:** [End family-based chain migration \(excluding spouses and children\); reallocate the diversity lottery visas and move to a merit-based system.](#)
- **Law Enforcement:** [Increase numbers of Immigration and Customs Enforcement officers, Border Patrol agents, prosecutors, and immigration court judges.](#)

While a compromise has been floated to [trade amnesty for DACA recipients in exchange for border wall funding](#), the price for any compromise should be very high and not be a [bad deal for the American taxpayer](#). It is vital reforms that make our borders secure and provide an orderly immigration process that rewards legal immigrants are included.