

## Mahoney Visits US-Mexico Border

Fact Finding Trip Reinforces Mahoney's View That America Must:

- 1) Secure Our Borders 2) Enforce Our Laws
  
- 3) Crack Down on Those who Knowingly Hire Illegal Immigrants

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(El Paso, TX) - During his fact finding trip Congressman Tim Mahoney (FL-16) met with U.S. Customs and Border Patrol agents, witnessed illegal immigrants being processed after they were captured attempting to cross the border, and saw first hand how increased funding will help efforts to secure the borders.

"Having spent time with the brave men and women of U.S. Customs and Border Patrol, it is clear that our nation owes them a debt of gratitude for defending our borders and protecting our nation. It is dangerous work combating smugglers, drug cartels and terrorists. They work long hours in harsh conditions. They are professional who know what America needs to do to secure our borders and enforce our laws. I committed to them that I would work in Washington to get them the manpower and resources they need. We must not let career politicians dictate unworkable solutions that fail to secure our borders, ports and beaches," said Congressman Mahoney.

Congressman Mahoney watched as U.S. Customs and Border Patrol agents processed illegal immigrants who were captured trying to cross the border, including one man who was previously deported after being convicted of a felony. He also discussed with Border Patrol Agents how increased funding can help their efforts to secure the border. Mahoney also was briefed on the different mixes of technology and patrol methods that are used to patrol the varying regions of the border.

This is the first in a series of meetings and fact finding opportunities that Congressman Mahoney will be holding to learn about how we can better protect our homeland, secure Florida's coasts, and guard America's borders.

In June, Congressman Mahoney voted to increase funding for the Customs and Border Patrol by \$886 million this year, which will allow them to hire more than 3,000 additional border patrol agents. Mahoney supports the effort to require the President to secure the border with Mexico by building a fence, and voted to provide money to build the fence. Mahoney regularly votes to reaffirm current Federal laws that make it illegal to provide federal benefits to illegal immigrants.

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