

110TH CONGRESS
2D SESSION

S. 2867

To authorize additional resources to identify and eliminate illicit sources of firearms smuggled into Mexico for use by violent drug trafficking organizations, and for other purposes.

IN THE SENATE OF THE UNITED STATES

APRIL 15, 2008

Mr. BINGAMAN (for himself and Mrs. HUTCHISON) introduced the following bill; which was read twice and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary

A BILL

To authorize additional resources to identify and eliminate illicit sources of firearms smuggled into Mexico for use by violent drug trafficking organizations, 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 “Southwest Border Vio-
5 lence Reduction Act of 2008”.

6 **SEC. 2. PROJECT GUNRUNNER.**

7 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General shall dedi-
8 cate and expand the resources provided for the Project

1 Gunrunner initiative of the Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco,
2 Firearms, and Explosives to identify, investigate, and
3 prosecute individuals involved in the trafficking of fire-
4 arms across the international border between the United
5 States and Mexico.

6 (b) ACTIVITIES.—In carrying out this section, the At-
7 torney General shall—

8 (1) assign additional agents of the Bureau of
9 Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explosives to the
10 area of the United States adjacent to the inter-
11 national border between the United States and Mex-
12 ico to support the expansion of Project Gunrunner
13 teams;

14 (2) establish not fewer than 1 Project Gun-
15 runner team in each State along the international
16 border between the United States and Mexico; and

17 (3) coordinate with the heads of other relevant
18 Federal law enforcement agencies and State and
19 local law enforcement agencies to address firearms
20 trafficking in a comprehensive manner.

21 (c) ADDITIONAL STAFF.—The Attorney General may
22 hire Bureau of Alcohol, Tobacco, Firearms, and Explo-
23 sives agents for, and otherwise expend additional resources
24 needed to adequately support, Project Gunrunner.

1 (d) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
2 are authorized to be appropriated \$15,000,000 for each
3 of fiscal years 2009 and 2010 to carry out this section.

4 **SEC. 3. ENHANCED INTERNATIONAL COOPERATION.**

5 (a) IN GENERAL.—The Attorney General, in coopera-
6 tion with the Secretary of State, shall—

7 (1) assign agents of the Bureau of Alcohol, To-
8 bacco, Firearms, and Explosives to the United
9 States mission in Mexico, to work with Mexican law
10 enforcement agencies in conducting investigations
11 relating to firearms trafficking and other criminal
12 enterprises;

13 (2) provide the equipment and technological re-
14 sources necessary to support investigations and to
15 trace firearms recovered in Mexico; and

16 (3) support the training of Mexican law en-
17 forcement officers in serial number restoration tech-
18 niques, canine explosive detection, and
19 antitrafficking tactics.

20 (b) AUTHORIZATION OF APPROPRIATIONS.—There
21 are authorized to be appropriated \$9,500,000 for each of
22 fiscal years 2009 and 2010 to carry out this section.

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