

## **Rep. Cuellar Supports Environmental Protections**

*Provides Funding to Preserve Natural Resources and Clean Water*

### **Active / Passed Legislation**

**Rep. Cuellar, as a Senior Member of the U.S. House Appropriations Committee, has supported numerous initiatives to Combat Climate Change.**

**Rep. Cuellar was the Lead Sponsor of the *North American Development Bank (NADB) Improvement Act of 2019*. [Added to USMCA] [P.L. No: 116-113]**

- Doubles the capital reauthorization for the North American Development Bank (NADB) to \$6 billion.
- NADB provides financial support for the development and implementation of infrastructure projects to help preserve, protect, and enhance the environment at the borders.
- A new authorization of \$215 million to fund this capital increase was included in the FY20 appropriations bill for the purpose of providing immediate assistance to border communities.
- An additional \$250 million in funding was secured through the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA).

**Rep. Cuellar helped secure \$300,000,000 for Border Water Infrastructure Program (BWIP) Grants in the 2019 United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA). [P.L. No: 116-113]**

- Secured a new authorization of \$300 million to fund grants under the Border Water Infrastructure Program (BWIP) to address sewage pollution in the USMCA.

**Rep. Cuellar is the Lead Sponsor of the *Los Caminos del Rio National Heritage Corridor Act of 2021*.**

- Directs the Department of the Interior to conduct a study to assess the suitability and feasibility of designating the study area in a border region of Texas as the Los Caminos del Rio National Heritage Corridor.
- The Corridor is a large a diversified landscape, characterized by historical land uses and architecture, social traditions, and ecosystems.

**Rep. Cuellar is an Original Cosponsor of the *Get the Lead Out Act of 2021*.**

- Provides \$66.2 billion over ten years to alleviate the threat of lead in drinking water systems across the United States.
- Requires every utility in America to develop a plan to identify and remove lead pipes that threaten residents, especially children.
- Helps utility companies invest in critical infrastructure plans and remove dangerous chemicals from community water systems.

**Rep. Cuellar Voted Yes for the *American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009*.**

- Establishes a cap-and-trade system for greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions while setting goals for reducing such emissions from covered sources by 83% including the electric power and oil and gas sectors, and heavy industry.
- Designed to ease the transition into a low carbon economy by providing assistance to those impacted by a cap - including industry, affected sectors of America's workforce, and low-income households; these also include support for international climate change programs.

**Fiscal Year 2022 Appropriations Provisions****FY22 Agriculture and Rural Development Appropriations**

**Rep. Cuellar helped secure \$93,000,000 for Grants for Colonias, and Alaskan and Hawaiian Native Villages under the Rural Water and Waste Disposal Program Account.**

**FY22 Energy and Water Development Appropriations**

**Rep. Cuellar helped secure \$109,000,000 for Emissions Mitigation Innovations and Carbon Capture Technology.**

- \$26,000,000 for Emissions Mitigation from Midstream Infrastructure.
- \$13,000,000 for Emissions Quantification from Natural Gas Infrastructure.
- \$38,000,000 for Carbon Utilization for research and development activities to support valuable and innovative uses of captured carbon.
- \$12,000,000 is for carbon capture research that benefits natural gas power systems.
- \$10,000,000 for the research and optimization of carbon capture technologies at industrial facilities.
- \$10,000,000 for a competitive solicitation to conduct tests of technologies for carbon dioxide absorption integrated with algae systems for capturing and re-using carbon dioxide to produce renewable materials.

**Rep. Cuellar helped secure \$17,600,000 to develop methods to combat Harmful Algae Blooms and the Spread of Sargassum.**

- \$8,000,000 to supplement activities related to harmful algal blooms and directs the Corps to target freshwater ecosystems.
- \$5,600,000 for the Army Corps of Engineers to develop next-generation ecological models to aid in algal bloom detection, prevention, and management techniques.
- \$4,000,000 for the Harmful Algal Bloom Demonstration Program to supplement activities related to harmful algal blooms.

**FY22 Interior and Environment Appropriations**

**Rep. Cuellar helped secure \$26,739,000 to research containment strategies to combat Harmful Algae Blooms and the Spread of Sargassum.**

- \$26,739,000 for Environmental Health programs, including funding for Contaminant Biology research, through the United States Geological Survey (USGS) for research on the impacts of unconventional oil and gas.
- Increase of \$1,000,000 above the budget request in Toxic Substances Hydrology for harmful algal bloom research.

**Rep. Cuellar secured \$35,000,000 for U.S.-Mexico Border EPA State and Tribal Assistance Grants.**

**Rep. Cuellar helped secure \$130,982,000 for the Brownfields Grants Program.**

- An increase of \$40,000,000 from FY21.

**Rep. Cuellar helped secure \$1,536,308,000 for the Superfund Remedial program and Emergency Response and Removal.**

- An increase of \$330,497,000 from FY21.

Rep. Cuellar helped secure \$15,000,000 for the Centennial Challenge.

Rep. Cuellar helped secure \$135,980,000 for maintenance, repair, or rehabilitation projects for constructed assets.

Rep. Cuellar helped secure \$188,184,000 for cyclic maintenance projects.

**FY22 State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations**

Rep. Cuellar helped secure \$108,770,000 for the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC).

- Added language directing the U.S. Commissioner to the IBWC to work with officials in Mexico to address the adverse impacts of waste from Mexico on communities in the United States.
- Secured language directing this funding to focus on reducing the amount of sediment runoff and eradication and mechanical control of carrizo cane.

**Fiscal Year 2021 Appropriations Provisions**

**FY21 Agriculture and Rural Development Appropriations**

Rep. Cuellar helped secure \$68,000,000 for Grants for Colonias, and Alaskan and Hawaiian Native Villages under the Rural Water and Waste Disposal Program Account.

**FY21 Energy and Water Development Appropriations**

Rep. Cuellar helped secure \$68,500,000 for Emissions Mitigation Innovations and Carbon Capture Technology.

- \$13,000,000 for Emissions Mitigation from Midstream Infrastructure.
- \$6,500,000 for Emissions Quantification from Natural Gas Infrastructure.
- \$23,000,000 for Carbon Utilization for research and development activities to support valuable and innovative uses of captured carbon.
- \$10,000,000 is for carbon capture research that benefits natural gas power systems.
- \$8,000,000 for the research and optimization of carbon capture technologies at industrial facilities.
- \$8,000,000 for a competitive solicitation to conduct tests of technologies for carbon dioxide absorption integrated with algae systems for capturing and re-using carbon dioxide to produce renewable materials.

Rep. Cuellar helped secure \$14,825,000 to develop methods to combat Harmful Algae Blooms and the Spread of Sargassum.

- \$4,000,000 to supplement activities related to harmful algal blooms and directs the Corps to target freshwater ecosystems.
- \$7,325,000 for the Army Corps of Engineers to develop next-generation ecological models to aid in algal bloom detection, prevention, and management techniques.
- \$3,500,000 to supplement activities related to harmful algal blooms and directs corps to work collaboratively with appropriate university partners.

**FY21 Interior and Environment Appropriations**

**Rep. Cuellar helped secure \$24,745,000 to research containment strategies to combat Harmful Algae Blooms and the Spread of Sargassum.**

- \$10,397,000 for Contaminant Biology research, through the United States Geological Survey (USGS) for research on the impacts of unconventional oil and gas.
- \$14,348,000 for toxic substances hydrology, which includes \$2,000,000 for research on harmful algal blooms.

**Rep. Cuellar secured \$30,000,000 for U.S.-Mexico Border EPA State and Tribal Assistance Grants.**

**Rep. Cuellar helped secure \$90,982,000 for the Brownfields Grants Program.**

- An increase of \$1,982,000 from FY20.

**Rep. Cuellar helped secure \$1,205,811,000 for the Superfund Remedial program and Emergency Response and Removal.**

- An increase of \$22,911,000 from FY20.

**Rep. Cuellar helped secure \$15,000,000 for the Centennial Challenge.**

**Rep. Cuellar helped secure \$135,980,000 for maintenance, repair, or rehabilitation projects for constructed assets.**

**Rep. Cuellar helped secure \$188,184,000 for cyclic maintenance projects.**

- An increase of over \$34 million from FY20.

**FY21 State, Foreign Operations, and Related Programs Appropriations**

**Rep. Cuellar helped secure \$98,770,000 for the International Boundary and Water Commission (IBWC).**

- Added language directing the U.S. Commissioner to the IBWC to work with officials in Mexico to address the adverse impacts of waste from Mexico on communities in the United States.
- Secured language directing this funding to focus on reducing the amount of sediment runoff and eradication and mechanical control of carrizo cane.