

U.S. Rep. Steil: Visits Del Rio, Texas to see border crisis first hand

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DEL RIO, TEXAS– U.S. Representatives Bryan Steil (WI-01), Tony Gonzales (TX-23), and Stephanie Bice (OK-05) visited Del Rio, Texas on Monday. During the visit, they met with the Del Rio Sector Border Patrol, toured the International Bridge and held a roundtable with Border Patrol Union leadership, Texas Department of Public Service and National Guard to discuss the ongoing crisis at the southern border.

“President Biden’s open border policies have created an illegal immigration crisis,” **said Rep. Bryan Steil (WI-01)**. “I saw the problem first hand. Since President Biden took office, Border Patrol has encountered over 1.2 million illegal migrants at our southern border. President Biden ended construction of the wall and is sending the message that our borders are open. We must provide our Border Patrol officers with the resources necessary to carry out their mission, secure the border, and end this self-inflicted crisis.”

“The escalation of the migrant crisis has culminated to the worst conditions at the border I have ever seen,” **said Rep. Tony Gonzales (TX-23)**. “With more migrants on the way in Central and South America, it is imperative that we provide border patrol, law enforcement and other agencies with all the necessary tools they need to secure our southern border. I appreciate my colleagues Representatives Steil and Bice for coming down to see the crisis firsthand in an effort to find long term solutions in Congress.”

“Today I traveled to Del Rio, Texas to see the situation at the border with my own eyes,” **said Rep. Bice (OK-05)**. “While most Oklahomans may assume immigrants crossing the border are from Mexico or Central American countries, people from more than 90 countries have been apprehended at our southern border. The national security aspects of letting so many people cross our border is extremely

concerning. After hearing from border patrol agents, Texas National Guardsmen and Texas Department of Public Safety on the ground in Del Rio, it could not be more obvious that the situation is out of control. President Biden and his administration must stop ignoring what's happening at our border and address this crisis."

Background: During the visit, Congressman Steil met with Border Patrol agents stationed in the Del Rio sector of the southern border. The agents informed members that parts of the border wall were being deconstructed by the Biden Administration. Agents also shared data on apprehensions in the Del Rio Sector.

- [In FY2020, 33,998 illegal migrants were encountered in Del Rio. In FY2021, 214,993 illegal migrants were encountered in Del Rio.](#)
- Illegal migrants from over 90 nationalities were encountered in the Del Rio sector this past year.