

***What all voters need to know about Mark Kelly's record on the border and immigration:***

***Mark Kelly is a combat veteran who spent his career keeping Americans safe. Now in the Senate, he's working to secure the southern border, which Washington has failed to address for decades. Kelly always puts Arizona first, which is why he's delivered increased resources for border security, worked with Republicans on legislation to address the crisis, and has stood up to the Biden administration and his own party to ensure a secure, fair, and orderly process at the border.***

**MARK KELLY IS A COMBAT VETERAN WHO SPENT HIS CAREER KEEPING AMERICANS SAFE. NOW IN THE SENATE, HE'S WORKING TO SECURE THE SOUTHERN BORDER, WHICH WASHINGTON HAS FAILED TO ADDRESS FOR DECADES.**

**SENATOR KELLY HAS PRESSURED THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION TO CONTINUE CONSTRUCTION OF THE BORDER WALL AND ADDRESS GAPS IN THE YUMA SECTOR**

**HEADLINE: "Close the Gaps" – AZ Democrat supports continuing some border wall construction**  
[KYMA, [12/16/21](#)]

**Kelly Wrote A Letter To Biden Asking Him To Continue Some Construction On The Border Wall.** "News 11 has exclusively obtained a letter from Sen. Mark Kelly (D-AZ), asking President Biden to continue some construction along exposed sections of the southern border wall. He specifically references the ongoing situation in Yuma. Kelly may very well be one of the first Democrats to take the public stance. He says he has concerns about border security and wants to close the so-called gaps. The Morelos Dam in Yuma, is considered one of those gaps, where literally hundreds of people are being funneled through that open section every single day. He says he supports barriers and fencing, 'where they make sense.' In addition to technology like lights and sensors, as well as staffing. Kelly said Washington has failed on immigration for decades now. He goes on to say in this letter to the President, that the obvious short gaps are putting a strain on the community, Border Patrol, and the already overwhelmed hospital. 'We need better border security technology. We also need to deal with some of the gaps that are in the border fencing in the Yuma area. I mean, these small gaps that just present a significant challenge for Border Patrol' Sen. Kelly said." [KYMA, [12/16/21](#)]

**Sen. Kelly Had Been Critical Of President Biden's Border Policies And Urged The President To Fix Gaps In Arizona's Border Walls While Also Restoring Areas Damaged By Trump's Border Wall Construction.** "Democrat Kelly has also criticized Biden's approach to the southern border at times, most recently sending a Dec. 16 letter to the president calling on him to close existing gaps in Arizona's border barriers. At the same time, Kelly urged Biden to restore areas damaged by Trump-era border wall construction." [Reuters, [12/21/21](#)]

**Sen. Kelly Said There Was No "One Size Solution" To Border Issues and That He Had Asked The Biden Administration To Address The 60-Foot Gap In Border Fencing In Yuma.** "'We got issues down there ... I was looking at the gap in the fencing where migrants come through. That needs to be addressed.' He said he was in the process of asking the White House to look into the issue, noting a 60-foot gap in fencing at the border in Yuma. But a solution is not one size fits all, Kelly said. 'It's not the same everywhere,' he said. 'I think barriers, fencing, wall, whatever you want to call it, makes sense in some areas and in some areas it doesn't make a lot of sense. 'It's rather expensive and some areas of the border don't get a lot of traffic. There are areas that are tribal issues, property rights issues.'" [KTAR News, [12/15/21](#)]

**HEADLINE: Senator Kelly Releases Statement On DHS Announcement To Address Border Barriers**  
[Gila Herald, [12/20/21](#)]

**Sen. Kelly Praised The Department Of Homeland Security's Authorization For U.S. Custom And Border Protection To Respond To Arizona's Environmental And Security Concerns Related To Border Wall Construction In The Yuma And Tucson Sector.** "Today, Arizona Senator Mark Kelly released a statement following the Department of Homeland Security's announcement to authorize the U.S. Customs and Border

Protection (CBP) to address life, safety, environmental and remediation requirements for border barrier projects located within the Border Patrol's Yuma and Tucson Sectors...“I'm glad that the Department of Homeland Security has heard our needs from Arizona and will take action to address some of the challenges at the Arizona-Mexico border. I look forward to reviewing the details of the plan as closing some of the gaps and installing gates will be positive steps to secure sections of the border.” [Gila Herald, [12/20/21](#)]

**The Department Of Homeland Security Announced That They Would Resume Border Fencing Construction Projects, Including Closing Gaps In Border Fencing Along The Arizona-Mexico Border Which Sen. Kelly Asked President Biden To Address.** KEYC HOST: “The Department of Homeland Security announced it will resume several border wall projects left in limbo when the Biden Administration halted all construction including those along the U.S. Mexico border in our area. In a statement DHS says construction and maintenance will begin again in multiple sectors, including Yuma, El Centro Tucson, and San Diego, just to name a few. This includes closing small gaps in the border wall. It's worth noting in Senator Mark Kelly's recent letter to President Biden - this is one of the main things he asked for. The move will also resume several other projects along the border that were halted when Biden took office...KEYC HOST: “This as Senator Mark Kelly continues his talks with top Biden officials on finishing some of the gaps along the U.S. Mexico border wall in the Yuma sector. It's those same gaps where hundreds of undocumented immigrants cross into Yuma.” [KEYC, [12/21/21](#)] (RADIO)

**KELLY ALWAYS PUTS ARIZONA FIRST, WHICH IS WHY HE'S DELIVERED INCREASED RESOURCES FOR BORDER SECURITY,**

**SENATOR KELLY SECURED OVER A BILLION DOLLARS IN CRITICAL FUNDING FOR CBP, ICE, AND BORDER SECURITY TECHNOLOGY**

**HEADLINE: Sen. Mark Kelly says more help is on the way to the Arizona border** [KTAR, [5/3/21](#)]

**HEADLINE: Senator Mark Kelly Says The Border Situation In Yuma Is A “Crisis”** [KYMA, [03/10/22](#)]

**Sen. Kelly's Office Helped Secure Funding For Border Security Including \$1.06 Billion For CBP, \$239.7 Million For ICE, \$150 For FEMA's Emergency Food And Shelter Program, And \$256 Million For Better Technology.** “Below is the full list of dollar amounts and areas of funding provided by Senator Kelly's office. \$1.06 billion for CBP for processing facilities; migrant medical care, transportation, personnel overtime and other costs; \$239.7 million for ICE for processing capacity, personnel overtime; transportation; and other costs; \$150 million for FEMA's Emergency Food and Shelter Program for nonprofit organizations sheltering migrants. \$256 million for better technology at the border which includes: Non-Intrusive Inspection Technology (NII) inspection systems to reach 100% screening and enhance CBP's effectiveness in detecting contraband at ports of entry while increasing the throughput of legitimate cargo and visitors. Tunnel technology funding to detect underground cross-border tunnels used by cartels in border areas for drug and human trafficking and for the detection of movement in Underground Municipal Infrastructure (UMI), such as drainage pipes and sewer systems. Agent Deployable Aerostat Platform Technology (ADAPT) deployment which would give Border Patrol layered surveillance technology defenses to combat transnational criminal organizations.” [KYMA, [03/10/22](#)]

**AS PART OF THE BIPARTISAN INFRASTRUCTURE BILL, SENATOR KELLY SECURED BILLIONS IN FUNDING TO UPGRADE ARIZONA'S PORTS OF ENTRY TO HELP IMPROVE BORDER SECURITY**

**HEADLINE: Mark Kelly Talks With Local Leaders About Infrastructure** [White Mountain Independent, [10/15/21](#)]

**Sen. Kelly Secured \$3.85 Billion Of Funding From The Infrastructure Bill To Modernize Ports Of Entry, Increasing Border Security And Trade And Reducing Wait Times For Immigrants.** “In addition to infrastructure issues, Kelly is also invested in keeping Arizona's borders safe. After visiting ports of entry in

Yuma, Douglas and Nogales, Kelly made it a priority to fund ports of entry modernization to improve border security, reduce wait times for immigrants coming in to the country, and better facilitate trade. He secured the following: \$3.85 billion to modernize and improve land ports of entry at our nation's northern and southwest border; the funds are split between General Services Administration (GSA) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP). The funds will allow GSA and CBP to execute construction and modernization at all ports on CBP's Five-Year Plan, as well as those identified as a priority for upgrades. Included on this list are \$147 million for the San Luis Port of Entry, \$216 million for the new Douglas Port of Entry, and \$184 million for rehab at the current Douglas Port of Entry, meaning those three projects are fully funded." [White Mountain Independent, [10/15/21](#)]

**Sen. Kelly Highlighted That The Bipartisan Infrastructure Bill Included \$148 Million To Upgrade The San Luis Port Of Entry And Said That The Administration Should Continue Filling Gaps In The Border Wall That "The Last President Constructed."** Mark Kelly: "At the same time, we need to fix some of the physical infrastructure at the border, including where it makes sense put some, fill some of the gaps in the border wall that the last President constructed. That's a positive thing to do and do that where it makes sense. Also upgrading our ports of entry. We have \$148 million now going to the San Luis Port of Entry to upgrade the Port of Entry. That's going to help CBP and Border Patrol be able to stop the flow, not stop, but slow down the flow and restrict some of the flow of drugs coming across our border, but also in the trafficking of people we need judges at the border." [KAWC, [03/04/22](#)] (RADIO)

#### **SENATOR KELLY WORKED TO GET MORE BORDER PATROL AGENTS TO THE BORDER**

**Sen. Mark Kelly: "We're Going To See An Additional About Two Hundred And Sixty Homeland Security Personnel That Are Going To Come From Other Parts Of The Country To Assist Here [At The Border] In Arizona."** "In an interview with KTAR, Kelly was asked for an update on the border. 'Well, I was told by Secretary Mayorkas the other day that we're going to see an additional about two hundred and sixty homeland security personnel that are going to come from other parts of the country to assist here in Arizona. Some of them have already been deployed here, about one hundred and forty five in the Yuma sector. One hundred and seventeen here in the Tucson sector of the Border Patrol. And then we're going to get some volunteers from other government agencies as well that are going to assist. And what this does is it allows the Border Patrol agents here in southern Arizona to get away from their desks where they're doing administrative tasks and they have these folks to fill in for them, but to get them back out into the field along the border so they can do their job securing Arizona's southern border.'" [KTAR, The Gaydos and Chad Show, 00:03:27, [5/3/21](#)]

#### **SENATOR KELLY HAS BEEN PRAISED BY BORDER MAYORS FOR HIS INVOLVEMENT AND ASSISTANCE WITH THE SITUATION AT THE BORDER**

**Yuma Mayor Doug Nicholls Said He Has Been In "Regular Contact" With Senator Kelly, And Kelly Has Brought Up The Issue Of Migrant Releases Into Yuma Directly To The White House.** "Yuma Mayor Doug Nicholls virtually met with White House officials on Tuesday evening to talk about the release of migrants that has been taking place in his city since Feb. 15. Since that date, the U.S. Border Patrol's Yuma Sector has released more than 500 migrants to bus stops and other transportation hubs in Yuma, Nicholls said. [...] Nonprofits throughout Arizona have once again stepped up, arranging private buses and shuttles to transport migrants released in Yuma to shelters in Tucson and in Phoenix, where they are tested for COVID-19 before they continue their journey to their final destination with relatives throughout the United States. Nicholls said he wanted to see the federal government not just reexamine the policy, but also provide funding and resources to border communities and nonprofits bearing the brunt of the work to help migrants. [...] Nicholls, a Republican, said he has been in regular contact with Arizona's two Democratic senators about the releases. At least one of them, Sen. Mark Kelly, had brought up the issue directly to the White House since the releases began." [Arizona Republic, [3/4/21](#)]

**Newsweek: Douglas Mayor Huish Said Sen. Kelly Was "Instrumental In Speaking On Behalf Of Arizonans" Regarding The Increase In Migrants At The Border And Had Even Visited His City Before The Reports Of A Surge Were Published.** "Douglas Mayor Donald Huish said Kelly, the state's other

senator, has also been instrumental in speaking on behalf of Arizonans as migrant facilities become increasingly crowded. He said Kelly even visited his city, a main port of entry in Arizona, before reports of a surge emerged. 'Senator Kelly has been quite involved too,' Huish told Newsweek. 'He came down early on in January to visit and hear from the border crossing people exactly what was going on. The search didn't commence then, but I think he had the foresight to want to know what's going on and what are some of the weaknesses and challenges that we may experience.'" [Newsweek, [3/25/21](#)]

**Arizona Republic: "Community Leaders In Yuma County Credit Kelly's Office For Helping Set Up The Current System To Have Migrants Dropped Off At A Clinic, Instead Of The Streets."** "Some federal assistance will soon be on the way to communities and nonprofits working with asylum-seekers at the U.S.-Mexico border, not just in Arizona, in the form of \$110 million that Congress passed and Biden signed as part of the \$1.9 trillion COVID-19 relief bill. The money will be made available via the Federal Emergency Management Agency's Emergency Food and Shelter Program. The question is how fast will it get to the people that need it. Sinema and Kelly said they worked to ensure the \$110 million was included in the bill. Sinema is the chair of the Senate Homeland Security Subcommittee on Border Management. Community leaders in Yuma County credit Kelly's office for helping set up the current system to have migrants dropped off at a clinic, instead of the streets." [Arizona Republic, [3/15/21](#)]

## **WORKED WITH REPUBLICANS ON LEGISLATION TO ADDRESS THE CRISIS,**

**Sen. Kelly And Sen. Portman Introduced Legislation To Bring Resources To The Southern Border In The Event Of A Migrant Surge.** "U.S. Sens. Mark Kelly (D-AZ) and Rob Portman (R-OH) introduced last week a bill designed to devise a southern border strategic plan and establish a contingency fund to address plan activation. The Border Response Resilience Act would require the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and federal partners to create a strategic plan and conduct exercises to improve the federal response to increased migration. The contingency fund would seek to address potential future increases in unaccompanied children, asylum-seekers, and migrants at the border." [Homeland Preparedness News, [6/2/21](#)]

**Sen. Kelly And Senator Rob Portman Introduced The Border Response Resilience Act, Legislation That Required The Department of Homeland Security To Prioritize Safety for Border Communities And A Humane Process For Migrants.** KJZZ: "There have been concerns about an increased number of migrants and the Biden administration and people from other countries maybe trying to take advantage of that or new policies or whatnot. What do you think that looks like in an ideal world, or what are some of the top things for you?" KELLY: "Just recently, Sen. [Rob] Portman (R-Ohio) and I introduced legislation called the Border Response Resilience Act that is an attempt to take politics out of this process. And it requires that the Department of Homeland Security develops a response plan that prioritizes safety for border communities, but also a humane process for migrants. ... What this bill will do is it will provide the resources and the partnerships that are needed to respond when we see these big increases in migration at the border. And DHS will have to have a plan, but they'll also have the resources to handle these surges that often come; they're somewhat, you know, cyclic. We also have a root cause problem. I don't think we're going to solve this problem without addressing issues in El Salvador, Honduras and Guatemala. It's a complex problem." [KJZZ, [6/4/21](#)]

**HEADLINE: Senators Propose \$1 Billion To Aid DHS In Addressing Future Migrant Surges** [Daily Caller, [05/28/21](#)]

**Senator Rob Portman And Sen. Kelly Introduced The Border Response Resilience Act, Which Would Create A \$1 Billion Fund To Help The Department Of Homeland Security Respond To Increases In Migration At The Border.** "Senators introduced legislation that would require federal agencies tasked with managing migration at the border to make strategic plans and allow access to \$1 billion in contingency funding, lawmakers announced Friday. Republican Ohio Sen. Rob Portman and Democratic Arizona Sen. Mark Kelly introduced the Border Response Resilience Act that would establish a \$1 billion 'Irregular Migration Border Response Fund' for the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) to provide food, clothing, blankets, and transportation for unaccompanied migrant minors and family members without having to transfer funding allocated to border security, according to the lawmakers. The act would require federal officials to make plans

and 'conduct exercises to improve the federal response to increased migration at the border.'" [Daily Caller, [05/28/21](#)]

**AND HAS STOOD UP TO THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION AND HIS OWN PARTY TO ENSURE A SECURE, FAIR, AND ORDERLY PROCESS AT THE BORDER.**

**SENATOR KELLY STOOD UP TO THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION TO GET MORE RESOURCES TO THE SOUTHERN BORDER**

**HEADLINE: Mark Kelly bucks Biden on the border** [Politico, [4/29/21](#)]

**Wall Street Journal: Kelly "Pressed The President In A Closed Door Meeting [...] For A Timeline For Additional Resources, Facilities And Covid-19 Testing Protocols At The Border."** "Another border-state Democrat, Sen. Mark Kelly of Arizona, pressed the president in a closed-door meeting earlier this week for a timeline for additional resources, facilities and Covid-19 testing protocols at the border, according to a person familiar with the call. Mr. Kelly said he was concerned that his state could be strained by the current situation, the person said. He also raised the issue in a previous call with Mr. Biden, according to the senator's office." [Wall Street Journal, [3/25/21](#)]

**SENATOR KELLY INTRODUCED LEGISLATION TO PREVENT THE ADMINISTRATION FROM ENDING TITLE 42**

**Kelly Said That There Was A Crisis On The Southern Border And While Title 42 Shouldn't Be Around Forever, Right Now The Administration Did Not Have A Plan And That He Warned Them About This Months Ago.** "Fast-forward to last week and Kelly, after meeting with U.S. Customs and Border Protection officials at the Douglas Port of Entry in Arizona along the U.S.-Mexico border, reiterated that 'right now we have a crisis on our southern border.' 'Title 42 was put in place because of a public health emergency. It shouldn't be around forever, but right now this administration does not have a plan. I warned them about this months ago,' Kelly told reporters." [FOX, [4/21/22](#)]

**HEADLINE: 'Crisis On Top Of A Crisis': Kelly Says Biden Has No Plan For Border After Dumping Title 42** [Herald Review, [04/15/22](#)]

**Sen. Kelly Introduced Legislation with Republican Sen. Lankford Which Would Require The Biden Administration To Create A Plan Before Lifting Title 42.** Kelly, "I have legislation with Sen. (James) Lankford of Oklahoma that requires that the administration have a plan before Title 42 is lifted." [Herald Review, [04/15/22](#)]

**SENATOR KELLY HAS WORKED TO STOP THE BIDEN ADMINISTRATION FROM ENDING TITLE 42 WITHOUT A COMPREHENSIVE PLAN**

**HEADLINE: Sinema, Kelly Criticize Biden Administration Over Ending Asylum Limits At US-Mexico Border** [KTAR, [04/03/22](#)]

**Sen. Kelly Commented That "From His Numerous Visits To The Border" And Conversations With Local Leaders He Understood That The Biden Administration's Lack Of Plan To End Title 42 Would Lead To "Further Strain" On Border Communities.** "Kelly echoed in the joint statement, calling ending the policy at this time the wrong decision. 'It's unacceptable to end Title 42 without a plan and coordination in place to ensure a secure, orderly, and humane process at the border,' Kelly said. 'From my numerous visits to the southern border and conversations with Arizona's law enforcement, community leaders, mayors, and non-profits, it's clear that this administration's lack of a plan to deal with this crisis will further strain our border communities...' Sinema and Kelly met with Mayorkas on Wednesday to discuss the administration's Title 42 contingency plans." [KTAR, [04/03/22](#)]

**HEADLINE: 'Crisis On Top Of A Crisis': Kelly Says Biden Has No Plan For Border After Dumping Title 42** [Herald Review, [04/15/22](#)]

**Cochise County Sheriff Mark Dannels Said He “Applaud[ed]” Sen. Kelly For Supporting Title 42 And Agreed With Sen. Kelly That The Biden Administration Needed A Plan.** “I applaud Sen. Kelly for his support of Title 42 during a time where our southern border is already under crisis. ‘We agree that this administration needs to share a collective plan of action and message reference border security and immigration surges. The vulnerabilities and public safety risks are force-multiplied when these gaps exist.’” [Herald Review, [04/15/22](#)]

**HEADLINE: Sinema, Kelly Rip White House Decision To Lift Pandemic Border Restrictions** [12 News, [04/03/22](#)]

**Sen. Kelly Commented That Biden’s Decision To End Title 42 Was “The Wrong Decision” And Said He Was “Unacceptable To End Title 42 Without A Plan.”** “Kelly and Sinema Rip Decision Arizona's two U.S. senators, Kyrsten Sinema and Mark Kelly, urged President Biden a week ago to keep the order in place. They contended that border authorities and communities weren't prepared for an anticipated surge of migrants. The senators issued blistering statements Friday. ‘This is the wrong decision,’ said Kelly, who's running for re-election in the fall. Immigration ranks among the top issues for Arizona voters. ‘It's unacceptable to end Title 42 without a plan and coordination in place to ensure a secure, orderly, and humane process at the border.’” [12 News, [04/03/22](#)]

**HEADLINE: Mark Kelly's Breaks With Biden Pile Up** [Politico, [04/05/22](#)]

**Sen. Kelly Highlighted That He Tells The White House “When I Think They’re Not Getting Stuff Right,” Especially As Related To Their Decision To End Title 42 With “No Plan.”** “And his criticism of Biden’s approach to the southern border only grew louder after the White House reversed the Trump administration public-health order known as Title 42, potentially clearing the way for more immigrants seeking asylum to enter the country. ‘I tell them when I think they’re not getting stuff right, like in this case. There’s no plan,’ Kelly said in an interview, referring to the Title 42 rollback.” [Politico, [04/05/22](#)]

**HEADLINE: Sen. Kelly Says Lifting Title 42 Will Cause Chaos On The Border** [KOLD, [04/15/22](#)]

**Sen. Kelly Commented That He Had “Warned’ The White House And DHS About Lifting Title 42 Without A Plan.** “Arizona Sen. Mark Kelly has come out against President Joe Biden’s plan to lift Title 42 next month. Title 42 was implemented during Trump administration to return migrants and asylum seekers back across the border into Mexico because of the threat caused by the pandemic. As the health emergency wanes, the Biden Administration set May 23, 2022 as the day to end the rule. Kelly says he’s not against lifting Title 42 but that the time is not right. ‘I’ve warned the White House about this, and DHS about this, that you not have a plan if you lift Title 42,’ Kelly told News 13.” [KOLD, [04/15/22](#)]

**Sen. Kelly Told Reporters He Wanted To “See A Detailed Plan’ About Ending Title 42 From The Biden Administration Including How They Would Provide Additional Resources, Border Patrol Staff, Buses, Drivers, Housing, And Payments.** “Kelly says one of the things he learned as an astronaut is the value of planning and he doesn’t believe the Administration has a plan for the large influx of migrants and asylum seekers once the medical emergency is lifted. ‘I want to see a detailed plan, he said. ‘What are the resources, how are you going to staff up border patrol, how many buses you going to need, how you going to pay for it, how you going to find the drivers, where are those buses going to go to temporarily house the increased number of migrants.’” [KOLD, [04/15/22](#)]

**Sen. Kelly Opposed Ending Title 42 Without A Plan Because It Would Increase Border Crossings From 7,000 To 18,000 A Day And He Didn’t Want “Chaos At The Border.”** “Kelly said the number of people

crossing the border will increase from 7,000 a day to 18,000 a day once Title 42 is lifted. 'We don't want chaos at the border,' Kelly said. 'We have a crisis, we don't want a crisis upon a crisis.'" [KOLD, [04/15/22](#)]