HOMELAND SECURITY REPUBLICANS

COVID-19 UPDATE

Ranking Member Mike Rogers

CANADA AND MEXICO TRAVEL RESTRICTIONS

As of 20 March 2020 – Noon EST

TRAVEL THROUGH PORTS OF ENTRY

The Department of Homeland Security issued new rules **banning non-essential travel** across the United States-Canada border and the United States-Mexico border effective 11:59 p.m. EDT on March 20, 2020.

These restrictions will remain in effect until at least 11:59 p.m. EDT on April 20, 2020.

NON-ESSENTIAL TRAVEL (NOT ALLOWED):

- Individuals traveling for tourism purposes (e.g., sightseeing, recreation, gambling, or attending cultural events). This includes passenger rail and ferry travel between the United States and Canada.

ESSENTIAL TRAVEL (STILL ALLOWED) IS DEFINED AS:

- U.S. citizens and lawful permanent residents returning to the United States;
- Individuals traveling for medical purposes (e.g., to receive medical treatment in the United States);
- Individuals traveling to attend educational institutions;
- Individuals traveling to work in the United States (e.g., individuals working in the farming or agriculture industry who must travel between the United States and Canada or the United States and Mexico in furtherance of such work);
- Individuals traveling for emergency response and public health purposes (e.g., government officials or emergency responders entering the United States to support Federal, state, local, tribal, or territorial government efforts to respond to COVID-19 or other emergencies);
- Individuals engaged in lawful cross-border trade (e.g., truck drivers supporting the movement of cargo between the United States and Canada or the United States and Mexico);
- Individuals engaged in official government travel or diplomatic travel;
- Members of the U.S. Armed Forces, and the spouses and children of members of the U.S. Armed Forces, returning to the United States; and Individuals engaged in military-related travel or operations.

Those who qualify under "essential travel" should be prepared to show proof of their reason for travel.

The restrictions do not currently apply to passenger air travel between the United States and Canada, and the United States and Mexico.

CHANGES TO PROCESSING OF ILLEGAL IMMIGRANTS APPREHENDED ON THE INTERNATIONAL LAND BORDERS

Within the next few days, the CDC Director is expected to issue an order, pursuant to 42 U.S.C. 265, directing CBP to turnback illegal immigrants to Mexico or Canada or make arrangements to immediately return them to their home country with limited exception.