Exhibit R
PROTECTING AMERICANS WHILE ENHANCING LEGAL IMMIGRATION

Since taking office, the President has made clear that he would restore order and integrity to the U.S. immigration system. There are three primary efforts underlying this goal: strengthening border security; ensuring enforcement of immigration laws; and reforming the legal immigration system, while recognizing that legal immigration is an important driver of a thriving economy. The Budget requests more than $28.2 billion for the agencies that have primary responsibility for carrying out immigration programs at DHS and the Department of Justice (DOJ). This includes funding for U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), and U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services within DHS, and the Executive Office for Immigration Review (EOIR) within DOJ.

Within the Administration’s proposal for $18 billion to fund the border wall, the Budget invests $1.6 billion to support CBP efforts to gain operational control of the Southwest border. Until the porous borders are closed to the criminals, terrorists, and gang members that exploit it, America remains at risk. Furthermore, since most of the illegal drugs that enter the United States come through the Southwest border, a border wall is critical to combating the scourge of drug addiction that leads to thousands of unnecessary deaths. The border wall would stop smugglers in their tracks and help make America safe.

The Budget also requests $211 million for 750 additional Border Patrol agents in 2019, continuing the President’s commitment to increase the ranks of the Border Patrol by 5,000 new agents. Funding would be used to recruit, hire, and train new agents, and for staff to support the men and women on the front line of America’s border defenses. These new personnel would supplement investments in the border wall by guarding the border and apprehending and swiftly removing illegal aliens at the border.

The Budget furthers investment in CBP technology and targeting systems such as the National Targeting Center (NTC) and the Biometric Entry-Exit System. The Budget requests a total of $253 million for NTC, an increase of $79 million, for its overall mission, including the background vetting of individuals seeking to enter the United States before they arrive. These programs would enable the Government to better identify terrorists and other criminals and prevent their entry into the United States. Completion of the long-required Biometric Entry-Exit System would increase law enforcement’s ability to identify and remove those who overstay their visas. Future investments in enhanced vetting and targeting programs would further the Administration’s goal of shifting such costs to visa and immigration applicants while continuing to facilitate legitimate travel to the United States.

The Budget makes major investments in immigration law enforcement in the interior of the Nation, focusing on efforts to identify, arrest, prosecute, and remove illegal aliens. Within ICE, the Budget proposes $571 million to hire and support 2,000 new officers and agents, which directly supports the President’s order for ICE to arrest all illegal aliens it encounters. Since the President’s inauguration, ICE arrests have increased by 42 percent and the Agency has increased requests to local law enforcement to transfer custody of illegal aliens to ICE by 81 percent during the same time period in the previous fiscal year.

As ICE increases its arrests and deportations of illegal aliens, it also requires additional detention and removal capacity. The Budget requests more than $2.5 billion for these critical law enforcement functions, funding an average daily detention capacity of 47,000 illegal aliens in facilities across the United States. To ensure immigration cases are heard expeditiously, the Budget also requests an increase of $40 million for 75 new immigration judge teams at EOIR and nearly $40 million for 338 new prosecuting attorneys at ICE. These investments are critical to the prompt resolution of newly-brought immigration charges and to reduce the 650,000 backlog of cases currently pending in the immigration courts.