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FISCAL IMPACT REPORT

ORIGINAL DATE 1/30/2007

SPONSOR Carraro LAST UPDATED _____ HB _____

SHORT TITLE Pardon Border Patrol Agents Ramos and Compean SJM 13

ANALYST Schuss

APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)

Appropriation		Recurring or Non-Rec	Fund Affected
FY07	FY08		
	NFI		

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

SOURCES OF INFORMATION

LFC Files

SUMMARY

Synopsis of Bill

Senate Joint Memorial 13 requests that the President of the United States pardon border patrol agents Ignacio Ramos and Jose Alonso Compean. The bill also requests that the President order an investigation into the prosecution of the border patrol agents and the actions of the Department of Justice and the United States Attorney's Office for the western district of Texas.

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Border patrol agents Ignacio Ramos and Jose Alonso Compean were convicted of assault with a deadly weapon, obstruction of justice and a civil rights violation when they wounded Osbaldo Aldrete Davila, a Mexican national drug smuggler committed to harming America's youth by bringing illegal drugs into the United States, as he attempted to flee across the border from near Fabens, Texas, into Mexico. The government's case relied on the testimony of Osbaldo Aldrete Davila, and the Department of Justice offered Aldrete Davila immunity from his actions in return for his testimony.

The prosecution and conviction of two border patrol agents for protecting America's border against drug smuggling shocks the conscience and harms the mission of the border patrol. There are dangerous drugs coming into the United States, including methamphetamine, cocaine and heroin, that are both addictive and dangerous, and most of those drugs are smuggled in through

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Mexico. The Department of Justice has also opposed allowing agents Ramos and Compean to remain free on bail while the appeals process moves forward. The lives of these two agents and their families are now ruined by this seemingly unexplainable action by the federal government.

Many Americans are outraged at the prosecution and conviction of these two border patrol agents and over two hundred twenty-five thousand people and at least fifty members of congress have reportedly petitioned President Bush to pardon the agents. Agents Ramos and Compean are now serving their sentences in federal prison.

Through SJM13, the State of New Mexico requests that the President of the United States immediately and unconditionally pardon agents Ignacio Ramos and Jose Alonso Compean, it is also requested that President Bush order the United States Attorney General to immediately investigate the actions of the Department of Justice and the United States Attorney's Office for the western district of Texas as to why they chose to seek out Osbaldo Aldrete Davila in Mexico to grant him immunity in order for them to prosecute these two border patrol agents for protecting America's border. Senate Joint Memorial 13 asks that the United States Attorney General report the findings of the investigation to the American people; and that copies of this memorial be transmitted to the President of the United States and to the New Mexico congressional delegation.

BM/csd