

(c) COLOMBIA.—

(1) **LIMITATION.**—None of the funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs that are made available for assistance for Colombia may be made available for—

(A) reparation payments or cash subsidies outlined in the 2016 Peace Accords; and
(B) alternative development assistance on properties where substances deemed illegal under the Controlled Substance Act of 1970 are grown, produced, imported, or distributed.

(2) **OVERSIGHT.**—Of the funds appropriated by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs under the heading “Economic Support Fund”, up to \$1,000,000 may be used by the Inspector General of the United States Agency for International Development for audits and other activities related to compliance with the limitations in paragraph (1): Provided, That such funds are in addition to funds otherwise available for such purposes.

(3) **AUTHORITY.**—Aircraft supported by funds made available by this Act and prior Acts making appropriations for the Department of State, foreign operations, and related programs and made available for assistance for Colombia may be used to transport personnel and supplies involved in drug eradication and interdiction, including security for such activities.

Release:

“The migration crisis at the southern border is symptomatic of this Administration’s lack of a clear strategy towards the Western Hemisphere. For too long, countries cozying up to our adversaries have been rewarded, and this bill puts a stop to it. The United States must focus more attention and provide resources to meet the challenges and opportunities in our own backyard, including to support like-minded countries such as Costa Rica, the Dominican Republic, and Panama.

Now, let me turn to Colombia. The importance of the United States partnership with Colombia cannot be understated. For decades, the U.S. has partnered with and supported the people of Colombia in building a thriving and stable democracy, and I have been one of the strongest supporters of those efforts.

Unfortunately, the current trajectory of Colombia under President Petro’s leadership is increasingly at odds with United States security and economic interests. Therefore, I have decided to defer funding for Colombia. Because of the strong and historic relationship between the people of the United States and Colombia, as well as the Colombian Armed Forces and Police, the Committee will continue to assess the actions of the Petro Government as the appropriations process moves forward. I sincerely hope more favorable actions in the future will allow us to move forward in further strengthening our longstanding partnership with Colombia.”