

Amish Shah Is So Extreme He Said He Would Have Voted Against The Bipartisan Laken-Riley Act That Targeted Violent Criminal Illegal Immigrants, Such As Murderers And Rapists; And Shah Has Bragged About Opposing Funding For Border Security

Opposition To The Laken Riley Act

VIDEO: Amish Shah Agreed With Rick McCartney's Statement That He Would Have Voted Against The Laken Riley Act, And Shah Said He Could Not Support It From A Moral Perspective. MCCARTNEY: "I would not have voted for Laken Riley at all. We need to have due process. Anybody can charge somebody and this administration, they would charge and they would immediately deport somebody." MODERATOR: "What do you think, Doctor?" AMISH SHAH: "John, in agreement and, and I'll just say that again, the the 5th Amendment has been violated again and again by this administration. Like I mean, we've lost count of how many violations we've actually had. And there seems to be nothing we can do about it. I mean, we are not having immigration court. I mean, I've talked to attorneys and judges who say that there is no process of law, let alone due process." MODERATOR: "But again, back to the Laken Riley Act. Is this something that Democrats, we'll stick with Democrats now the general are coming down the road here, but Democrats in Congressional District one, do you think they might have supported more than you?" AMISH SHAH: "I like all I can just tell you is that I think from a moral perspective, we know that this isn't something that we can support. You have to be really clear morally. And I get back to the idea that when we talk about the courts orders not being followed by the administration, that's directly breaking our system of government with three equal branches. And and that is, again, not following those court orders is an impeachable offense." ([AZ-01 Democratic Candidates Attend A Candidate Forum](#), Phoenix, AZ, 6/9/26) Minute 24:36 - 25:56

The Laken Riley Act, Which Made Illegal Immigrants Accused Of Burglary, Theft, Assaulting A Police Officer, And Other Crimes Subject To Deportation

The Laken Riley Act Would Require ICE To Issue Detainers And Take Custody Of People In The Country Who Commit Theft-Related Crimes, Including Shoplifting. "The bill, authored by Rep. Mike Collins, R-Ga., would change federal law to require ICE, operating under the Homeland Security Department, to issue detainers and take custody of people in the country illegally who commit theft-related crimes, including shoplifting." (Scott Wong et al., "House Passes Laken Riley Act To Amp Up Border Enforcement And Put Pressure On Democrats," [NBC News](#), 1/7/25)

The Laken Riley Act Would Require The Detention Of Undocumented Migrants Charged With Theft Or Burglary. "The bill would require the detention of undocumented migrants charged with theft or burglary. The legislation is named after Laken Riley, a 22-year old Georgia student who was killed last year while she was out for a run. An undocumented migrant from Venezuela was convicted and sentenced to life without parole in the case that reignited a national debate over immigration and crime." (Clare Foran et al., "GOP-Led Immigration Bill On Verge Of Senate Passage After Democrats Join With Republicans In Key Vote," [CNN](#), 1/17/25)

The Laken Riley Act Requires The Department Of Homeland Of Security To Detain, Pending Trial, Illegal Immigrants Accused Of Burglary, Theft, And Assault Of A Law Enforcement Officer Among Other Crimes. "The bill requires the Department of Homeland Security to detain migrants if they are charged with certain criminal offences, including theft, shoplifting, burglary, assault against law enforcement or any crimes that result in death 'or serious bodily injury of another person'. It also empowers the attorneys general of states to sue the federal government if their resident feel they have been harmed by national immigration policies." (Max Matza, "Congress Passes Laken Riley Act In Early Win For Trump On Immigration," [BBC](#), 1/22/25)

The Senate Adopted An Amendment To S. 5 That Expanded The Offenses Under The Bill To Include Crimes That Cause Death Or Injury, And Assault Of A Law Enforcement Officer. "The Senate, where the bill passed 64-35 last week, also added an amendment that expands the measure to include crimes causing death or serious bodily injury, or the assault of a law

enforcement officer.” (Ximena Bustillo and Deirdre Walsh, “Congress Clears GOP-Led Immigration Enforcement Bill, With Democrats On Board,” [NPR](#), 1/22/25)

On January 29, 2025, President Donald Trump Signed The Laken Riley Act Into Law. “President Trump signed the Laken Riley Act into law on Wednesday, expanding the scope of those who can be arrested, detained and deported by federal immigration officers. The bill is the first of Trump’s second presidency to become law and it comes at a time when he is promising stricter enforcement of immigration laws and increased deterrents to legal migration. It passed with bipartisan support marking a shift for Democrats, who did not advance the legislation in the Senate last year. Trump nodded to that bipartisan support in his afternoon remarks, thanking Democrats for helping to get the measure through.” (Ximena Bustillo, “Trump Signs First Bill Of His Second Presidency, The Laken Riley Act, Into Law,” [NPR](#), 1/29/25)

The Laken Riley Act Was Named After Georgia Nursing Student Laken Riley, Who Was Assaulted And Murdered By A Venezuelan Illegal Immigrant Who Was Arrested For Shoplifting Ahead Of The Attack

The Laken Riley Act Was Named After Laken Riley, A 22-Year-Old Georgia Student Who Was Killed While She Was Out For A Run. “The bill would require the detention of undocumented migrants charged with theft or burglary. The legislation is named after Laken Riley, a 22-year old Georgia student who was killed last year while she was out for a run. An undocumented migrant from Venezuela was convicted and sentenced to life without parole in the case that reignited a national debate over immigration and crime.” (Clare Foran et al., “GOP-Led Immigration Bill On Verge Of Senate Passage After Democrats Join With Republicans In Key Vote,” [CNN](#), 1/17/25)

Laken Riley Was Assaulted And Murdered By Jose Ibarra, A Venezuelan Illegal Immigrant. “The bill which, passed with the support of all House Republicans in attendance plus 37 Democrats, is named after nursing student Laken Riley, who was found dead last month after going out for a run in Athens, Ga. Police believe Riley, 22, was killed by Jose Ibarra, a man who immigration authorities say crossed the U.S. border unlawfully in 2022. According to police, Riley suffered blunt force trauma to the head. Ibarra, who migrated from Venezuela, was arrested last month on murder and assault charges.” (Mariana Alfaro, “House Passed Immigration Bill Named For Murdered Georgia Student,” [The Washington Post](#), 3/7/24)

Ibarra Was Arrested For Shoplifting Ahead Of The Attack And Paroled In The Country. “Dubbed the Laken Riley Act, the legislation honors the woman killed by a Venezuelan migrant who was arrested for shoplifting ahead of the attack and paroled in the country. Riley’s birthday would have been Friday, which is the same day the Senate may take up the bill.” (Rebecca Beitsch and Mychal Schnell, “House Passes Immigration Measure Named After Laken Riley,” [The Hill](#), 1/7/25)

In 2023, Ibarra Was Previously Arrested In New York For “Acting In A Manner To Injure A Minor And A Motor Vehicle License Violation.” “According to immigration and Customs Enforcement, Ibarra was released by border officials pending a review of his immigration case after he was detained by Customs and Border Protection in 2022. He was arrested almost a year later, on Aug. 31, 2023, after New York police charged him with acting in a manner to injure a minor and a motor vehicle license violation.” (Mariana Alfaro, “House Passed Immigration Bill Named For Murdered Georgia Student,” [The Washington Post](#), 3/7/24)

On November 20, 2024, Ibarra Was Found Guilty Of Assaulting And Murdering Riley And Sentenced To Life In Prison Without Parole. “A man accused of killing Georgia nursing student Laken Riley while she was out for a run earlier this year was found guilty Wednesday and sentenced to life without parole in a case that reignited the national debate over immigration and crime. Jose Ibarra, a 26-year-old undocumented migrant from Venezuela, was convicted on a total of 10 charges, including murder, kidnapping with bodily injury, aggravated assault with intent to rape, and tampering with evidence.” (Nicole Chavez, “Laken Riley’s Killer Sentenced To Life In Prison After Heart-Wrenching Pleas From Her Family,” [CNN](#), 11/20/24)

Border Security Record

In 2019, Shah Voted Against A Bill That Provided More Than \$7.1 Million In Funding To The Border Strike Task Force, Including More Than \$760,000 To Fund Local Law Enforcement Officer Positions Within The Border Strike Task Force

While Serving In The Arizona State House In 2019, Shah Voted Against H.B. 2747. (H.B. 2747, [House Third Reading](#), Passed 31-28-1, Shah Voted Nay, 5/25/19)

House Third Reading - HB2747 general appropriations act; 2019-2020.							
Action Date		Action		Vote			
05/25/2019		Passed		31-28-1-0-0		Amended	
ALLEN J	Y	DEGRAZIA	N	KAVANAGH	Y	ROBERTS	Y
ANDRADE	NV	DUNN	Y	KERN	Y	RODRIGUEZ	N
BARTO	Y	ENGEL	N	LAWRENCE	Y	SALMAN	N
BIASIUCCI	Y	EPSTEIN	N	LIEBERMAN	N	SHAH	N

(H.B. 2747, [House Third Reading](#), Passed 31-28-1, Shah Voted Nay, 5/25/19)

In May 2019, The House Engrossed Version Of H.B. 2747 Was Signed Into Law. (H.B. 2747, [Signed Into Law](#), 5/31/19)

Transmit to Governor:	05/27/2019	
Governor Action	05/31/2019	Signed
Chapter:	263	
Chapter Version:	House Engrossed	

(H.B. 2747, [Signed Into Law](#), 5/31/19)

The House Engrossed Version Of H.B. 2747 Provided More Than \$7.1 Million In Funding To The Border Strike Task Force. (H.B. 2747, [House Engrossed Version](#), 5/31/19)

39	Sec. 80.	DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY	
40			2019-20
41		FTE positions	2,014.7
42		Operating lump sum appropriation	\$258,613,500
43		ACTIC	1,450,000
44		Border strike task force ongoing	7,102,500

(H.B. 2747, [House Engrossed Version](#), 5/31/19)

The House Engrossed Version Of H.B. 2747 Included A Border Strike Task Force Local Support Line Item Of More Than \$1.2 Million, Of Which More Than \$760,000 Would Be Used To Fund Local Law Enforcement Officer Positions Within The Border Strike Task Force. (H.B. 2747, [House Engrossed Version](#), 5/31/19)

29	Of the \$1,261,700 appropriated for the border strike task force
30	local support line item, \$761,700 shall be used to fund local law
31	enforcement officer positions within the border strike task force. Any
32	city, town, county or other entity that enters into an agreement with the
33	department to participate in the border strike task force shall provide at
34	least twenty-five percent of the cost of the services, and the department
35	shall provide not more than seventy-five percent of personal services and
36	employee-related expenditures for each agreement or contract. The
37	department may fund all capital-related equipment.

(H.B. 2747, [House Engrossed Version](#), 5/31/19)

- **The Arizona Border Strike Task Force Was A Multi-Agency Operation First Launched In 2015 To Tackle Law Enforcement Concerns At The Arizona-Mexico**

Border. “Gov. Doug Ducey said Wednesday the state will spend \$2.9 million in fiscal 2019 on a three-year-old multiagency effort to stop drug trafficking and human smuggling at the border. The Arizona Border Strike Force has seized 60,000 pounds of marijuana, 300 guns and ‘enough fentanyl to kill 11 million Americans,’ since it was launched in 2015, he told a news conference. Law-enforcement agencies involved in the task force include the state Department of Public Safety, Cochise and Pima county sheriff’s departments.” (Rachel Beth Banks, “Ducey: AZ Will Spend \$2.9 Million To Fight Border-Related Crime,” [Cronkite News](#), 7/11/18)

The House Engrossed Version Of H.B. 2747 Included A Border Strike Task Force Local Support Line Item Of More Than \$1.2 Million, Of Which \$500,000 Would Be Used For Grants To Cities, Towns Or Counties For Costs Associated With Prosecuting And Imprisoning Individuals Charged With Drug Trafficking, Human Smuggling, Illegal Immigration And Other Border-Related Crimes. (H.B. 2747, [House Engrossed Version](#), 5/31/19)

38 Of the \$1,261,700 appropriated for the border strike task force
 39 local support line item, \$500,000 shall be used for grants to cities,
 40 towns or counties for costs associated with prosecuting and imprisoning
 41 individuals charged with drug trafficking, human smuggling, illegal
 42 immigration and other border-related crimes.

(H.B. 2747, [House Engrossed Version](#), 5/31/19)

In 2020, Shah Voted Against A Bill That Provided Nearly \$8 Million In Funding To The Border Strike Task Force, Including More Than \$760,000 To Fund Local Law Enforcement Officer Positions Within The Border Strike Task Force

While Serving In The Arizona State House In 2020, Shah Voted Against S.B. 1692. (S.B. 1692, [House Third Reading](#), Passed 31-29, Shah Voted Nay, 3/19/20)

House Third Reading - SB1692 general appropriations act; 2020-2021. ×							
Action Date		Action				Vote	
03/19/2020		Passed				31-29-0-0-0	
ALLEN J	Y	DEGRAZIA	N	KAVANAGH	Y	ROBERTS	Y
ANDRADE	N	DUNN	Y	KERN	Y	RODRIGUEZ	N
BARTO	Y	ENGEL	N	LAWRENCE	Y	SALMAN	N
BIASIUCCI	Y	EPSTEIN	N	LIEBERMAN	N	SHAH	N

(S.B. 1692, [House Third Reading](#), Passed 31-29, Shah Voted Nay, 3/19/20)

In March 2020, The Senate Engrossed Version Of S.B. 1692 Was Signed Into Law. (S.B. 1692, [Signed Into Law](#), 3/28/20)

Transmit to Governor:	03/23/2020	
Governor Action	03/28/2020	Signed
Chapter:	58	
Chapter Version:	Senate Engrossed	

(S.B. 1692, [Signed Into Law](#), 3/28/20)

The Senate Engrossed Version Of S.B. 1692 Provided Nearly \$8 Million In Funding To The Border Strike Task Force. (S.B. 1692, [Senate Engrossed Version](#), 3/28/20)

28	Sec. 76. DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SAFETY	
29		2020-21
30	FTE positions	2,014.7
31	Operating lump sum appropriation	\$275,710,900
32	ACTIC	1,450,000
33	Border strike task force ongoing	7,916,400
34	Border strike task force	
35	local support	1,261,700

(S.B. 1692, [Senate Engrossed Version](#), 3/28/20)

The Senate Engrossed Version Of S.B. 1692 Included A Border Strike Task Force Local Support Line Item Of More Than \$1.2 Million, Of Which More Than \$760,000 Would Be Used To Fund Local Law Enforcement Officer Positions Within The Border Strike Task Force. (S.B. 1692, [Senate Engrossed Version](#), 3/28/20)

16 Of the \$1,261,700 appropriated for the border strike task force
17 local support line item, \$761,700 shall be used to fund local law
18 enforcement officer positions within the border strike task force. Any
19 city, town, county or other entity that enters into an agreement with the
20 department to participate in the border strike task force shall provide at
21 least twenty-five percent of the cost of the services, and the department
22 shall provide not more than seventy-five percent of personal services and
23 employee-related expenditures for each agreement or contract. The
24 department may fund all capital-related equipment.

(S.B. 1692, [Senate Engrossed Version](#), 3/28/20)

The Senate Engrossed Version Of S.B. 1692 Included A Border Strike Task Force Local Support Line Item Of More Than \$1.2 Million, Of Which \$500,000 Would Be Used For Grants To Cities, Towns Or Counties For Costs Associated With Prosecuting And Imprisoning Individuals Charged With Drug Trafficking, Human Smuggling, Illegal Immigration And Other Border-Related Crimes. (S.B. 1692, [Senate Engrossed Version](#), 3/28/20)

25 Of the \$1,261,700 appropriated for the border strike task force
26 local support line item, \$500,000 shall be used for grants to cities,
27 towns or counties for costs associated with prosecuting and imprisoning
28 individuals charged with drug trafficking, human smuggling, illegal
29 immigration and other border-related crimes.

(S.B. 1692, [Senate Engrossed Version](#), 3/28/20)

In 2023, Amish Shah Voted Against Appropriating \$43 Million To Combat Border-Related Crimes Such As Human Trafficking, Drug Smuggling And Illegal Immigration

On February 20, 2023, In The Appropriations Committee, Shah Voted Against Appropriating \$43 Million To Combat Border-Related Crimes Such As Human Trafficking, Drug Smuggling And Illegal Immigration. “The exploitation at the border fund is established consisting of legislative appropriations. The department shall administer the fund. monies in the fund are CONTINUOUSLY appropriated. The department shall distribute monies in the fund to sheriffs and other local law enforcement agencies in border counties for the following purposes: 1. To pay for Costs associated with prosecuting and detaining individuals who are charged with drug trafficking, human smuggling, illegal immigration and other border-related crimes. 2. to fund sworn peace officers who are engaged in any of the following ACTIVities: (a) DISRUPTING and dismantling transitional criminal organizations. (b) Increasing collaboration across state lines to address criminal border activity. (c) Improving intelligence. (d) Investing in the analysis of border-related crossings and crimes. (e) Combating human smuggling. (f) Combating drug trafficking. Sec. 2. Appropriation; exploitation at the border fund; exemption A. The sum of \$43,000,000 is appropriated from the state general fund in fiscal year 2023-2024 to the exploitation at the border fund established by section 41-1735, Arizona Revised Statutes, as added by this act. B. The appropriation made in subsection A of this section is exempt from the provisions of section 35-190, Arizona Revised Statutes, relating to lapsing of appropriations.” (H.B. 2704, Arizona House Appropriations Committee, Passed: 9-6, Shah Voted Nay, 2/20/23)

Committee		Ref #	Assign	Report	Action	Vote	
Selina Bliss							
APPROP		1	02/07/2023	02/20/2023	DP	9-6-0-0-0	
BLISS	Y	GRESS	Y	PARKER B	Y	SHAH	N
CARBONE	Y	GUTIERREZ	N	QUIÑONEZ	N	CHAPLIK	Y
DIAZ	Y	HERNANDEZ M	N	SALMAN	N	LIVINGSTON	Y
DUNN	Y	NGUYEN	Y	SCHWIEBERT	N		

([H.B. 2704](#), Arizona House Appropriations Committee, Passed: 9-6, Shah Voted Nay, 2/20/23)

The Bill Would Have Created The Exploitation At The Border Fund To Combat Human Trafficking, Drug Smuggling, And Illegal Immigration. “The bill passed the Senate Military Affairs Committee 5-2. It would create the Exploitation at the Border Fund and designate \$43 million to combat border-related crimes such as human trafficking, drug smuggling and illegal immigration.” (MacKenzie Dexter, “Biasiucci Bill Provides \$43M To Fight Arizona Border Crimes,” [The Miner](#), 3/25/23)

On April 3, 2021, Shah Voted Against A Resolution To Commend United States Border Patrol For Their “Courage, Dedication And Sacrifice.” “Be it resolved by the House of Representatives of the State of Arizona, the Senate concurring: 1. That the Members of the Legislature commend the courage, dedication and sacrifice of the men and women of the United States Border Patrol and recognize the vital role they play in safeguarding our state and nation. 2. That the Secretary of State of the State of Arizona transmit copies of this Resolution to the President of the United States and each Member of Congress from the State of Arizona.” ([HCR 2029](#), Passed: 31-28-1, 3/3/21, [Shah Voted Nay](#))

Shah Opposed Legislation Allowing For Private Fencing Along The Border

In 2020, Legislation Letting Landowners Along The Border Erect Fences Without Permits Failed In The Arizona House. “Legislation to let landowners along the border erect fences without getting building permits hit a barrier of its own on Thursday. On a voice vote, House Republicans gave preliminary approval to H.B. 2084. That move came over the objections of Democrats who questioned issues of safety and liability of allowing structures to go up without first getting plans approved and without having the project inspected during construction. But when the time came for a final roll-call vote, Rep. Tony Rivero, R-Peoria, refused to support the bill. That left the GOP majority, which has only a one-vote edge in the 60-member House, without the 31 votes necessary for final approval.” (Howard Fischer, “Bill Promoting Private Border Fencing Falls 1 Vote Shy Of Approval In AZ House,” [Arizona Daily Star](#), 1/31/20)

Shah Voted Against House Passage Of The Bill. (H.B. 2084, Passed 31-29, 1/30/20, Shah Voted Nay)