Sen. Kyrsten Sinema, D-Arizona, on the dangerous path many migrants take through Arizona

Sen. Kyrsten Sinema, a Democrat from Arizona, said that while deaths have decreased in recent years, they are still occurring. According to Sinema, the dangerous path many migrants take through Arizona and its treacherous terrain and the number of search-and-rescue attempts are increasing every day.

“arizona Daily Star - 12/05/2021 Page : F11
When Arizona Gov. Ducey de-

cisions and citing migrant
debate, she cited the "deadly" jour-

ean that it's the time they can travel

ture of Tucson Police Department

crisis that both of our states are

Sen. Sinema said one goal of the bill

ing the Arizona Democrat said.

"This bill was meant to deal with

"The reality is that it's getting

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How to ‘take death out of the equation’

Please see DEATHS, Page F14

STAR INVESTIGATION: DEATH IN THE DESERT

Nearly 100 people walk along Sixth Avenue during Dia de los Muertos procession to honor migrants who died in the desert crossing into the United States.

How to ‘take death out of the equation’

Some bills do not directly address the large-scale death of migrants or those who have not entered the United States yet, but they do provide some form of legal status that could allow migrants already in the United States to visit family and friends in their home country and then return to the United States through a legal point of entry, rather than risk their lives in the desert.

One such bill, the Farm Workforce Modernization Act, would grant temporary worker status to migrants who already work in the United States and allow them to legally cross the border. The bill passed the House in 2020 and likely should have this year.

Federal lawmakers should continue to try to pass legislation, as they have done since 2006. STAR found after tracking migrant deaths or migrants in distress.

In the meantime, Congress should do the same with rescue funds for Operation Stonegarden to help law enforcement agencies in border communities work with Customs and Border Patrol to rescue and apprehend migrants abandoned by the cartel,” wrote Rep. Kye Gauger, a Republican from Texas, and Chuck Fleischmann, a Republican from Tennessee.

The Federal Emergency Management Agency, which oversees Operation Stonegarden, already provided $2 million to Pima County to house and transport asylum-seeking families. County officials recently said those funds would be used to house asylum-seeking families at a former prison if they were exposed to COVID-19.

In 2019, CBP launched a $15 billion spending increase to $15 billion in the Trump administration spent roughly $1 billion on surveillance systems in Southern Arizona that couldn’t detect illegal activity in the desert or it was designed to do and eventually was scrapped.

The money needed to save hundreds of lives every year in Southern Arizona likely would simply register in budgets that large.

1. Build on data findings of the Star and other analyses by designating a team of University of Arizona researchers to study a trend that could help prevent rescue efforts in the deadliest areas.

The scoping of the disaster remains unclear.

On a larger scale, CBP should do the same with rescue, migrant deaths, and the rise of rescue beacons, some of which will be misused next year by the Unidentified Remain and Missing Person Act.

For more detailed information that would be vital to reducing migrant deaths, but which Border Patrol officials consider confidential, such as GPS locations of encounters with migrants, Congress could direct the Border Patrol to declassify that data with a team of researchers at the University of Arizona, some of whom have developed deep expertise.

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 5, 2021 | F13

OPINION Diversity of thought is critical for democracy

CURT PRENDERGAST

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**Deaths**

by studying migrant deaths and migration in Southern Arizona.

The UA researchers found that this rate is unnatural.

The Department of Homeland Security is facing a "center of excellence" a decade ago. UA researchers studied the data to determine what causes deaths and migration in Southern Arizona. The data are stored in a cooler at the Medical Examiner’s Office.

**STAR INVESTIGATION: DEATH IN THE DESERT**

Border Patrol agents respond to a migrant’s family member from a migrant's family member in the desert. They receive reports from 20 jurisdictions spread out in the Sonoran Desert, which is a difficult task, especially in the summer. The average in the desert west of Tucson is a difficult task, especially in the summer. The average in the desert is less than 70 degrees Fahrenheit. The Land Border Patrol could share GPS coordinates from encounters when they call for help, modeled after efforts by the Border Patrol in southern Texas. The patrols include a number and a three-letter code for each of the nine Border Patrol stations in the Tucson sector.

At summer’s end, the official could gather data about how often migrants reported those signs when they called 911. When there were no reliable or easy ways to report those incidents, the Border Patrol often could not find migrant staff or volunteers to help. Those reports could be sent to the Border Patrol, Mexican Consulate, and humanitarian groups, such as the Mexican Consulate and the Border Patrol. They could lead meetings to discuss what agencies and groups report that happens summer and how they intended to deal with it. They could plan with agents and volunteers to see if more information becomes available from other sources.

Each outlet, that official could coordinate rescue efforts, smooth out jurisdictional continuities, work with local humanitarian groups, and make sure families know what happened to their loved ones. At the end of each summer, that official could meet with local humanitarian groups and evaluate new measures put into place.

For example, the Border Patrol is putting placards in the desert that migrants can use as reference points when they call for help, modeled after efforts by the Border Patrol in southern Texas. The placards include a number and a three-letter code for each of the nine Border Patrol stations in the Tucson sector. At summer’s end, the official could gather data about how often migrants reported those signs when they called 911. When there were no reliable or easy ways to report those incidents, the Border Patrol often could not find migrant staff or volunteers to help. Those reports could be sent to the Border Patrol, Mexican Consulate, and humanitarian groups, such as the Mexican Consulate and the Border Patrol. They could lead meetings to discuss what agencies and groups report that happens summer and how they intended to deal with it. They could plan with agents and volunteers to see if more information becomes available from other sources.

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