



Sen. Johnson says borders aren't secure

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Sen. Johnson Opening Statement for HSGAC Hearing



U.S. Sen. Ron Johnson (R-Wis.) says American borders are not secure, at a Congressional hearing Wednesday addressing concerns over Canada's plan to accept 25,000 Syrian refugees by the end of the month.

Johnson, who serves as chairman of the Homeland Security & Governmental Affairs Committee, said, "The purpose of this hearing is taking a look at a potential threat."

[\(https://www.hsgac.senate.gov/\)](https://www.hsgac.senate.gov/)

At the hearing, members heard testimony highlighting the need to secure the U.S. border with Canada.

Johnson says most American border concerns have been focused to the south with Mexico.

"We have far more illegal crossing on our southern border," he said.

But as a result of America's good relationship with Canada, he said, the end result is "a pretty unsecure border with Canada."

Johnson noted that while the American refugee vetting process takes somewhere between 18-24 months, he has concerns that Canada's "fast-track" refugee plans leaves many unanswered national security questions here in the United States.

Several potential solutions have been raised in the past, including the construction of a wall along the U.S./Canadian border.

During Gov. Scott Walker's presidential campaign, he said a wall along Canada's border was a "legitimate issue for us to look at" during a "Meet the Press" (<http://www.nbcnews.com/meet-the-press/video/scott-walkers-full-meet-the-press-interview-515822659517>) interview. He later said the comment was misinterpreted.

Last September, a [Bloomberg poll](http://images.businessweek.com/cms/2015-09-23/150924_thursday_8698175.pdf) (http://images.businessweek.com/cms/2015-09-23/150924_thursday_8698175.pdf) revealed 4 out of 10 Americans would support building a wall along the U.S./Canada border.

To view Wednesday's entire hearing, [click here](http://www.hsgac.senate.gov/hearings/canadas-fast-track-refugee-plan-unanswered-questions-and-implications-for-us-national-security) (<http://www.hsgac.senate.gov/hearings/canadas-fast-track-refugee-plan-unanswered-questions-and-implications-for-us-national-security>).

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