

At the invitation of Congresswoman Gabriel Giffords' (AZ-8) office, U.S. Congressman John Barrow (GA-12) joined two other members of the Blue Dog coalition to tour the United States border patrol areas along the U.S.-Mexico border.

The tour was an opportunity for the Congressmen to assess our border security operation and evaluate our nation's efforts in combating illegal immigration into the United States. The other Congressmen on the tour were Jason Altmire (PA-04) and Tim Holden (PA-17).

"Touring these facilities and talking to the people on the ground that are combating this problem are the best ways to determine how effective our current efforts are. I appreciate Congresswoman Giffords and her exceptional staff putting together this fact-finding tour for us," said Congressman Barrow. "Our capabilities have evolved and our operations are working, but clearly there's more that can be done to better secure our borders and crack down on illegal immigration. I will continue working with Jason, Tim, and the rest of my colleagues to see that our patrolmen and women have the equipment and resources they need to get the job done."

The delegation visited border patrol stations and met with border patrol officials and local ranchers who are working to prevent illegal immigrants from crossing into the U.S. During the visit, the Congressmen visited the Douglas Port of Entry, received an update on anti-smuggling operations, and a briefing on the deployment of National Guard troops to the border.

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