

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

October 27, 2021

Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas
Department of Homeland Security
301 7th St, SW
Washington, DC 20528

Secretary Xavier Becerra
Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Secretary Mayorkas and Secretary Becerra,

We are deeply concerned by reports of flights with illegal immigrants being flown from the southwest border to communities across the country with no notification. The lack of transparency from the Biden Administration is unacceptable.

Since January, Customs and Border Protection (CBP) has encountered 1.5 million migrants at our southwest border. This humanitarian and national security crisis has stretched our immigration system to a breaking point. Border Patrol agents work day and night to process large groups of illegal immigrants crossing our border, and the Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) has taken in over 13,000 unaccompanied minors (UAC) every month for the last seven months.

In this year alone, over 640,000 people have been processed under Title 8 and are awaiting immigration proceedings in the United States, which could take years. As people are relocated from the border to the interior of the country while they await proceedings, the Administration must be transparent with state and local agencies about how many illegal immigrants are being moved into their communities.


We are closely following recent news reports that the Biden Administration is chartering flights to transport illegal immigrants to New York and Jacksonville, Florida¹. However, this administration has not confirmed how many of these flights have taken place, who is on these flights, and where they are going. In an effort to better understand the current situation, we ask for your prompt reply to the below questions:

- What agencies are moving illegal immigrants from the border to the interior of the country?
- What populations are being moved by the federal government (UAC, families, single adults)?
- When did these flights begin?
- Are these flights ongoing?
- How many flights have occurred since January?
- How many illegal immigrants have been transported on these flights?
- Where are these flights originating and where are they going?
- Where are individuals on these flights being relocated to?

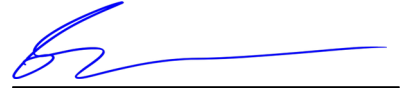
¹ <https://www.nationalreview.com/news/biden-administration-quietly-flies-illegal-immigrants-to-new-york-in-middle-of-night-report/>

If the federal government is going to move groups of people into communities where they will use local resources, such as schools, transportation, and social services, it is vital that local governments and law enforcement be aware of these populations. For these reasons, we ask for a quick response to these questions.


Sincerely,



John H. Rutherford
Member of Congress




Brian J. Mast
Member of Congress



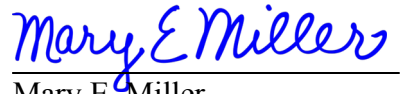
Jeff Duncan
Member of Congress



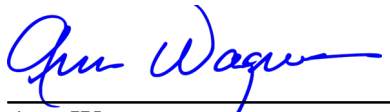
Mario Diaz-Balart
Member of Congress




Louie Gohmert
Member of Congress



Mary E. Miller
Member of Congress



Ann Wagner
Member of Congress



W. Gregory Steube
Member of Congress



Barry Moore
Member of Congress



Matthew Rosendale, Sr.
Member of Congress



Randy K. Weber, Sr.
Member of Congress



Gus M. Bilirakis
Member of Congress



Michael Waltz
Member of Congress



Charles J. "Chuck"
Fleischmann
Member of Congress



Lauren Boebert
Member of Congress



Elise M. Stefanik
Member of Congress



Guy Reschenthaler
Member of Congress



Bill Posey
Member of Congress



Jefferson Van Drew
Member of Congress



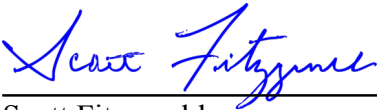
David Kustoff
Member of Congress



Kay Granger
Member of Congress




Glenn Grothman
Member of Congress



Scott Fitzgerald
Member of Congress



Rick W. Allen
Member of Congress



Michael C. Burgess, M.D.
Member of Congress



Pete Stauber
Member of Congress



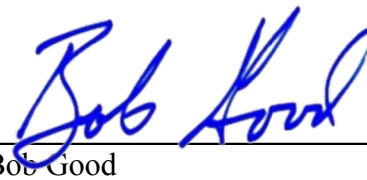
Eric A. "Rick" Crawford
Member of Congress



Ralph Norman
Member of Congress



Nicole Malliotakis
Member of Congress



Bob Good
Member of Congress



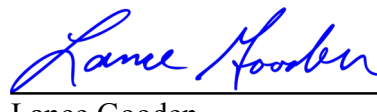
Tracey Mann
Member of Congress



Larry Bucshon, M.D.
Member of Congress



Chris Jacobs
Member of Congress



Lance Gooden
Member of Congress



Mike Bost
Member of Congress



Vern Buchanan
Member of Congress



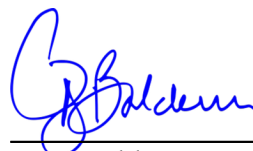
Madison Cawthorn
Member of Congress



Kat Cammack
Member of Congress



John Joyce
Member of Congress



Troy Balderson
Member of Congress



Fred Upton
Member of Congress



Steve Chabot
Member of Congress



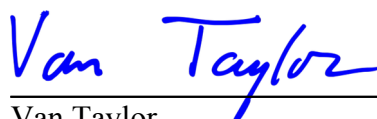
William R. Timmons IV
Member of Congress



Warren Davidson
Member of Congress



Dan Bishop
Member of Congress



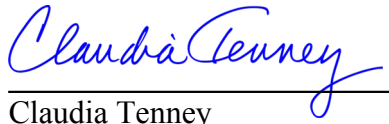
Van Taylor
Member of Congress



Chip Roy
Member of Congress



Ben Cline
Member of Congress



Claudia Tenney
Member of Congress



Debbie Lesko
Member of Congress



James R. Baird
Member of Congress



Markwayne Mullin
Member of Congress