Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

July 27, 2010

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi Speaker U.S. House of Representatives H-232, US Capitol Washington, DC 20515

The Honorable Steny Hoyer Majority Leader U.S. House of Representatives H-107, US Capitol Washington, DC 20515

Dear Speaker Pelosi and Majority Leader Hoyer:

In the recently passed House emergency supplemental appropriations bill, the Obey Amendment provided \$701 million for enhanced southern border protection and law enforcement. As Members of the Border Caucus, we are very disappointed that this critical funding to combat the border threats was not included in the final version.

We are at a critical juncture in our nation's border and homeland security. As violence persists in Mexico, we cannot pause in our ability to detect, deter, and disrupt the illegal activity that seeks to permeate our border. It is our duty to stand for what is necessary to ensure the safety of the southern border and our homeland. We urge you to bring to the House floor either a stand-alone bill or another legislative vehicle that includes this southern border security emergency funding.

With violence escalating along the southern border and our communities at risk, we need to allocate resources to equip law enforcement and prosecutors within the Department of Homeland Security and the Department of Justice in order to ensure effective enforcement of our border. We urge you to swiftly move a legislative vehicle that readdresses the need for emergency funding for the southern border. These critical funds will support our law enforcement officers who carry out our border security mission everyday.

Henry Cuellar, Ph.D.

U.S. Congressman

O.B. Congressman

Bob Filmer

Bob Filner
U.S. Congressman

Ciro Rodriguez U.S. Congressman

Gabrielle Giffords U.S. Congresswoman

Harry Teague

U.S. Congressman

Silvestre Reyes U.S. Congressman