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Congress of the United States
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July 12, 2010

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The Honorable Eric H. Holder, Jr.
Attorney General of the United States
U.S. Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

Dear Attorney General Holder:

I am writing to express my strong opposition to your decision to file suit in United States District Court against the State of Arizona challenging the validity of the Arizona state law which empowers law enforcement officials within that state to determine the immigration status of individuals who are stopped by the police for other reasons. The statute only embodies previous United States Department of Justice guidance that state and local law enforcement officials have the power under federal law to inquire into immigration status.

In my view, the Arizona statute is entirely appropriate, and the federal government should take no steps to prevent its implementation. I very much regret your decision in this matter and encourage you to seek dismissal of the lawsuit that is now pending.

Thanking you for your attention to these comments, I remain with kind regards

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Boucher". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Rick Boucher
Member of Congress