

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 17, 2014

The Honorable Jeh Johnson
Secretary
Department of Homeland Security
3801 Nebraska Ave, NW
Washington, D.C. 20528

The Honorable Sylvia Mathews Burwell
Secretary
Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Johnson and Secretary Burwell,

We are writing in response to reports that the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) and the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) have been secretly transferring illegal immigrants held in federal custody to facilities and households in other states with no notice to elected officials in that state. We seek information about the impact of the current border crisis on the state of Louisiana—now and in the future.

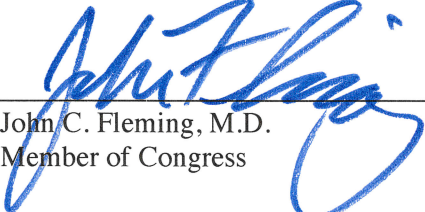
Please answer the following questions:

- How many DHS detainees or Unaccompanied Alien Children in the care of HHS have been transferred into the State of Louisiana since January of 2014? To where in the state have they been transferred?
- Has the governor of Louisiana or have any elected officials been notified about the transfer, either in advance or after the fact?
- What is the health status of any illegal immigrants transferred? Have there been any cases of infectious disease? Have the local health authorities been notified and given time to prepare or respond?
- Does DHS or HHS verify the immigration status of households before placing a child in that household?
- How many transfers to Louisiana does DHS anticipate in the next 3 months? In the next year?


It is obvious to Louisianians that the current border crisis is the result of Executive amnesty, granted through Deferred Action for Childhood Arrivals (DACA), prosecutorial discretion, and the releasing of criminal aliens. We urge you to rescind the policies that have caused a tidal wave of illegal immigration. We urge you to use your existing authority under the law to secure the border and expeditiously remove illegal crossers.

Going forward, there should be no transfers to the state of Louisiana without the explicit approval of the governor. We look forward to your prompt response concerning these matters.

Sincerely,



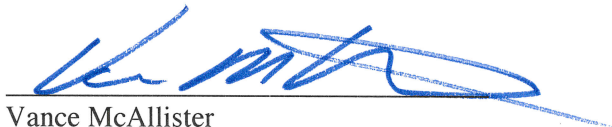
John C. Fleming, M.D.
Member of Congress



Charles W. Boustany, Jr. M.D.
Member of Congress



Bill Cassidy, M.D.
Member of Congress



Vance McAllister
Member of Congress