

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

June 26, 2014

The Honorable Barack Obama
President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., N.W.
Washington, D.C.

Dear President Obama:

We write to urge you to personally send a clear message to those seeking to enter the U.S. illegally.

The increasing numbers of unaccompanied children crossing the U.S. border in Texas has caused an unfolding humanitarian situation that has required a coordinated federal response. While a number of factors are influencing the influx of unaccompanied children crossing the southern border, a significant contributor is reported misrepresentations of our immigration laws by bad actors such as human smugglers and a misunderstanding of our immigration laws by parents and children.

We urge you to use the resources at your disposal to personally make clear to those seeking entry to the U.S. illicitly that they will not receive special treatment when it comes to enforcing our immigration laws. Based on reports from unaccompanied children and federal officials, we respectfully recommend that you specifically convey that those unaccompanied children now entering the U.S. will not be eligible for deferred action for childhood arrivals (DACA). Similarly, it would be helpful for you to clarify that legislative remedies at hand require children to have been in the country for an extended duration. For example, legalization under the Senate-passed immigration reform legislation requires, among other things, that undocumented immigrants have been present in the U.S. since December 31, 2011.

In addition, we encourage you to convey to your foreign counterparts in El Salvador, Guatemala, and Honduras the urgent imperative for them to dispel the misunderstanding of our laws and to take action against those who are spreading such misinformation. Importantly, we also request that you work with the leaders of these countries to improve conditions in their countries so that their children do not feel the need to make the dangerous journey to the U.S., and to enhance regional collaboration to address this crisis.

The present situation begs your personal efforts to clarify U.S. immigration laws and to spur action from leaders of the primary sending countries.

Sincerely,

Jeff Flah

Donna Pein's Ten

John McLean

Deanne Shaker

John Conroy

Al Franken

~~John McLean~~

Mike Johnson

Susan Collins

Dan Coats

Marco Rubio FL.

John
G.S.S. GA

~~John McLean~~

Loan Agency

Sally Chabli

John Shum

Pat Rooney

Kelly Anzette

Boecker

Pat Roberts

Ron Johnson

Ray Wicker

Larry Jones

Bob Portman

Tom Coburn

John Hoover

Ray Bennett

Quinn Hatch

Tom Harkin

Joe Neuhardt

Sam Vitter

Jerry Moran

Heidi Heitkamp

~~Jim Tester~~

Mark Royce

John Boozman

~~Paul Manchillo~~

John E. Walsh

Tom Udare

Jeff

Mike Crespo

James R. Kinch
