

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

March 20, 2012

The Honorable Harold Rogers
Chairman
Committee on Appropriations
H-307 Capitol

The Honorable Norm Dicks
Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1016 Longworth HOB

The Honorable Frank Wolf
Chairman
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science
Committee on Appropriations
H-309 Capitol

The Honorable Chakah Fattah
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science
Committee on Appropriations
1016 Longworth HOB

Dear Chairmen Rogers and Wolf, and Ranking Members Dicks and Fattah:

The enforcement of federal immigration law continues to inadequately meet the challenges created by the millions of illegal aliens residing in our country. In order to aid in the enforcement of these laws, the federal government provides several grant programs to offset the costs incurred by local governments. One of these programs is the State Criminal Alien Assistance Program (SCAAP), which provides funding to local governments through the Bureau of Justice Programs (BJP) for the costs of detaining and incarcerating illegal immigrants who have been convicted of a crime.

Unfortunately, several local governments across the country have in place policies and laws that contradict and prevent the enforcement of federal immigration law. These entities are referred to as sanctuary cities. Despite their policies that allow criminal illegal aliens to remain unidentified and on the streets, sanctuary cities are still eligible for, and receive, SCAAP funding.

We believe that sanctuary cities, which undermine the effective enforcement of current immigration laws, should not be eligible to receive this funding. This policy change would have the effect of urging greater compliance with our country's immigration laws, and greater responsibility with taxpayer money.

Therefore, we encourage you, as part of your deliberations on the Department of Justice appropriations bill, to prohibit any state or locality that has in effect a law, policy, or procedure in contravention of federal immigration law or that prohibits law enforcement officials from gathering information regarding the citizenship or immigration status of an individual, to be ineligible for SCAAP funding.

Thank you for your consideration and attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



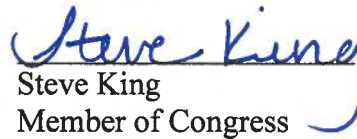
Duncan Hunter
Member of Congress



Sue Myrick
Member of Congress



Sam Graves
Member of Congress



Steve King
Member of Congress



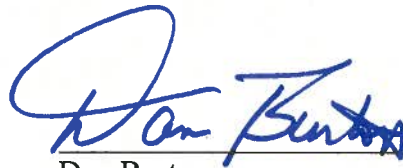
Kenny Marchant
Member of Congress



Diane Black
Member of Congress



Rob Woodall
Member of Congress



Dan Burton
Member of Congress

Wally Herger

Wally Herger
Member of Congress