

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 25, 2021

Governor Laura Kelly
Office of the Governor
Capitol, 300 SW 10th Ave., Ste. 241S
Topeka, Kansas 66612

Dear Governor Kelly,

We're writing to you today regarding Texas Governor Greg Abbott and Arizona Governor Doug Ducey's requests for Kansas' law-enforcement resources to assist their response to the crisis at America's southern border.

The meteoric rise in illegal immigration created by President Biden's open border agenda caused Governor Abbot to issue a disaster declaration in Texas and Governor Ducey to declare an emergency in Arizona.

Foreign nationals, border residents, and American workers and families in all 50 states are harmed by the influx of illegal immigrants across our southern border. State and federal officials have a duty to respond.

Kansas is no exception to the turmoil caused by the crisis at the border--in February of 2020, Gerson Ayala-Alfaro, an illegal immigrant from Honduras, faced charges after attacking and injuring two ICE employees in Sumner County. Also last year, Raul Valenzuela-Arce, also undocumented, unlawfully re-entered the US after deportation and was charged with distribution of methamphetamine as well as a DUI in Topeka. ICE officers also recently arrested a 37-year old illegal immigrant from El Salvador in Liberal after he committed several criminal offenses.

Over the past six months, a staggering number of unaccompanied minors have made the dangerous trip across our border, risking sexual assault, violence and even death.

An open southern border threatens our national security and the safety of all Americans. In April, CBP arrested two Yemeni men on a terror watch list. Hundreds of thousands of illegal immigrants are entering our country each month with no documentation and unknown motives. At the current rate, illegal immigration from outside of Mexico and the northern triangle will be almost three times higher in 2021 than it was in 2019.

Finally, the surge of illegal immigrants diverts federal resources away from combating the illegal drug trade and encourages drug smuggling. By April 6, 2021, U.S. Customs and Border Protection had already seized more fentanyl than in all of 2020. The opiate epidemic is a leading public health scourge that impacts all states.

The Preamble states that the chief responsibility of the federal government is to ensure domestic tranquility and provide for the common defense. In President Biden's first several months, it is clear that he and his administration have failed to faithfully execute the laws of the land. This can be proven through the influx in apprehensions, removal of effective measures from the previous administration that reduce illegal immigration, failure to protect the border from COVID-19, and many other adverse effects.

The Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) allows states to share resources during disasters. According to Governor Ducey and Governor Abbot's letter, as required by Article 11(B) of EMAC, Texas and Arizona officials "will be contacting their counterparts in your State to prepare an appropriately detailed request for law-enforcement assistance."

On behalf of our constituents in Kansas, we're requesting that you approve Texas and Arizona's requests for assistance.

Sincerely,



Ron Estes
Member of Congress



Tracey Mann
Member of Congress



Jake LaTurner
Member of Congress