

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

January 14, 2022

President Joseph R. Biden, Jr.  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Ave., NW  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden,

On December 30, 2021, you signed a Proclamation on National Human Trafficking Prevention Month, 2022. In the proclamation, you called on others to prevent all forms of human trafficking. To follow through with your proclamation, we call on you, Mr. President, to secure our southern border.

Criminal organizations continue to use the United States-Mexico border as a pipeline to bring people to the United States and subject them to human rights abuses. In 2021, Homeland Security Investigations noted that human trafficking arrests have increased by nearly 40 percent compared to the previous year. It is also estimated nearly 60 percent of Latin American children who set to cross the border alone, or with smugglers, have faced abuse from cartel organizations.

Cartels have been reported to earn as much as \$14 million a day trafficking families, women, children, and single adults through the southern border. What frequently follows is horrific abuse in the form of sex slavery and forced labor to repay debts to cartels. An elected official in Yuma, Arizona estimates it can take 15-20 years to pay off debts associated with being trafficked into the United States.

Simply put, your proclamation on National Human Trafficking Prevention Month does nothing for the victims of human trafficking when paired with your current open border policies. The increase in human trafficking arrests by the Department of Homeland Security's principal investigative arm should be a warning to your administration that more must be done to combat these terrible crimes. To effectively combat human trafficking, it is clear that your administration must enforce federal immigration laws to end the crisis at the southern border.

We urge you to reconsider your policies to protect innocent men, women, and children from being trafficked across our southern border.

Sincerely,



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Debbie Lesko  
Member of Congress



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Andy Biggs  
Member of Congress



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Michael Waltz  
Member of Congress



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Mary E. Miller  
Member of Congress



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Diana Harshbarger  
Member of Congress



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Brian Babin, D.D.S.  
Member of Congress



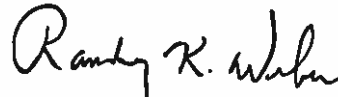
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Madison Cawthorn  
Member of Congress



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Maria Elvira Salazar  
Member of Congress



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Randy K. Weber  
Member of Congress



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Doug Lamborn  
Member of Congress



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Pat Fallon  
Member of Congress



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Michael Cloud  
Member of Congress



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Eric A. "Rick" Crawford  
Member of Congress



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Christopher H. Smith  
Member of Congress



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Scott Perry  
Member of Congress



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Bob Good  
Member of Congress



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Bill Posey  
Member of Congress



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Ben Cline  
Member of Congress



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Kat Cammack  
Member of Congress



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Robert Aderholt  
Member of Congress



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Vicky Hartzler  
Member of Congress



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Roger Williams  
Member of Congress



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**Louie Gohmert**  
**Member of Congress**