

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

November 18, 2010

The Honorable Barack Obama  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

In May of this year, you authorized the deployment of 1,200 National Guard to assist federal law enforcement along the U.S. - Mexico border with the fight against recurring violence, illegal immigration and drug smuggling. These forces are vital to protecting our border, which is why we favor increasing the number of troops on the border, not eliminating them. Unfortunately, this plan fell miserably short in the number of troops, the duration of their deployment and the budget necessary to achieve success. We are aware of your plan to end the National Guard deployment in Texas, fewer than six months after the beginning of operations, and we strongly object to this action. Until the border is secured, this course of action seriously jeopardizes our National Security and unnecessarily puts Americans at risk.

The violence along the border has not decreased. While your Southwest Border Augmentation Plan was established to reinforce the insufficient resources along our border with Mexico, it has not had enough time to be effective. The recent murder at Falcon Lake is a stark example that the security situation on the border still requires the National Guard's presence. Until the border is secure, we need more troops at the border, not fewer.

Governor Perry has requested 1,000 National Guard troops to be deployed under Title 32 authority to the Texas - Mexico border to support ongoing Texas' border security efforts. These troops would be used in direct support of civilian law enforcement and provide the appropriate level of support the brave Customs and Border Protection agents so desperately need. We ask that you immediately grant approval of Governor Perry's request.

Further complicating the alarming situation at the border, Customs and Border Protection has announced that next Tuesday, they will resume the Alien Transfer and Exit Program (ATEP) that will bring detained illegal aliens from other states to Del Rio, Texas where they will be released to Mexican officials. This program should not be restarted until the resources needed to secure the border are in place.

Americans want and deserve a secure border. Removing National Guard troops from the Texas border and restarting ATEP work directly against that objective. We ask that you immediately reverse your decisions and allow the National Guard to stay at the border and delay the resumption of ATEP in Texas until the border is secure. In addition, we ask that you

immediately grant Governor Perry's 2009 request for 1000 National Guard troops at the Texas border.

Sincerely,

Fay Green

Joe Boston

John B. ...

Michael F. ...

K. ...

Randy ...

Ralph M. Hall

Pete ...

John ...

Lamar Smith

Pete Olson

ATMM

Jo Hens on big

John Culberson

Sam Johnson

Mac ...

R. ...

Ron ...