



**Congress of the United States**  
**House of Representatives**  
Washington, DC 20515-4302

June 18, 2014

The Honorable Barack H. Obama  
The President  
The White House  
Washington DC 20500

Dear President Obama,

We write to you as members of the House Immigration Reform Caucus about an issue that is critical to the safety and security of our nation. As you know, reports indicate that as many as 35,000 illegal immigrants are now crossing our borders every month. That is over 1,000 each day. These individuals are overwhelming CBP, ICE, and the resources of our nation's border states. This situation is unsustainable and unprecedented, and it must be addressed immediately.

It is becoming abundantly clear that this growing influx of individuals is a direct result of the Administration's lack of interior enforcement of our laws and failure to more aggressively secure our nation's southern border. Furthermore, reports from some of these individuals are that many of them are coming here with the hopes of receiving amnesty or a free pass from the possibility of deportation. News reports in Central America are also encouraging individuals to make the trek and cross the border into the United States as soon as possible in order to take advantage of this situation.

We call on you to immediately make a public statement confirming that the immigration laws of this country will be enforced, that the 2012 deferred action program will not apply to those children who are arriving at the border, and to publicly discourage those thinking of making the dangerous crossing into the U.S. not to do so. Without such a public statement, we fear that the numbers will only increase as time goes on, placing unprecedented burdens on our local and state law enforcement agencies.

Additionally, due to the acute and growing nature of this threat, we call on you to immediately deploy at least 2,000 National Guard troops to the U.S./Mexico Border, with the possibility of more troops should events on the ground warrant an increase. In past times of border crises, such as during a spike of violence in 2010, you deployed 1,200 National Guard troops to the border, and we urge you to deploy even more given the serious crisis that we currently face. In past deployments, troops were ordered to provide "intelligence and intelligence analysis; surveillance and reconnaissance support; immediate support to counternarcotics enforcement; and training capacity." We strongly believe that any additional troops that are sent to the border should not be delegated to a support role and should be deployed to patrol the actual border. These troops should be armed, given clear rules of engagement, and must be able to defend themselves if fired upon.

We look forward to working with you and your Administration to provide safety and security to the American people, and we urge to you take immediate action to regain control of our nation's southern border.

Sincerely,



Ted Poe  
Member of Congress



Lamar Smith  
Member of Congress



Bill Flores  
Member of Congress



Diane Black  
Member of Congress



Phil Gingrey  
Member of Congress