

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

March 12, 2021

Dr. Anthony S. Fauci, M.D.
Director
National Institute of Allergy and Infectious Diseases
5601 Fishers Lane, MSC 9806
Bethesda, MD 20892-9806

Dr. Francis Collins, M.D.
Director
National Institutes of Health
9000 Rockville Pike
Bethesda, MD 20892

Dear Dr. Collins and Dr. Fauci,

Like many Americans, we are alarmed by the Biden administration's resumption of the dangerous immigration policy of "catch-and-release" along the southern border. This shift in policy had already resulted in an uptick in illegal crossings, and hundreds of illegal immigrants being released into American neighborhoods on nothing more than a promise to appear at a future hearing. This has reportedly occurred despite the lack of any uniform testing requirements or quarantine protocols – despite the fact that Mexico now has the highest per-capita COVID fatality rate in Latin America. Even more troubling are recent reports indicating that the surge in illegal migration is worsening by the day, creating a dangerous new foreign pipeline for COVID-19 infections in border communities, and the nation at large.

As President Biden's top medical advisors, you are in a unique position to make recommendations based on scientific evidence and data on what you believe to be best practices when it comes to containing the spread of the virus – something you have not hesitated to do on multiple occasions over the course of the last several months.

In that vein, we would like to ask you what recommendations you have made regarding the public safety implications of a return to the policy of "catch-and-release." Do you believe that a return to this policy will help or hinder contact tracing, virus containment, and eradication efforts?

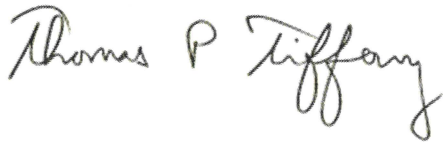
We would also like to know if you have personally visited border facilities and processing sites to see first-hand what COVID-19 protocols are being applied, and to what level these efforts are being coordinated with state and local officials; or if you have recommended any mechanisms to track the movements of recently apprehended illegal aliens who are processed and immediately cut loose under the new Biden policy.

Drs. Collins and Fauci, multiple law enforcement officials in border counties have warned that a growing number of illegal aliens are fanning out across the United States under the White House's revolving door "catch-and-release" policy, representing a new foreign source of virus importation and spread at a time when countless Americans continue to face stifling restrictions on their daily activities – even as the number of new domestic cases declines. Allowing this to continue isn't just dangerous, it's nonsensical.

We hope we can work together to regain control of the dangerous situation on our southern border before the current surge reaches crisis levels, and I look forward to hearing your medical recommendations for how best to do so.

We look forward to your swift reply.

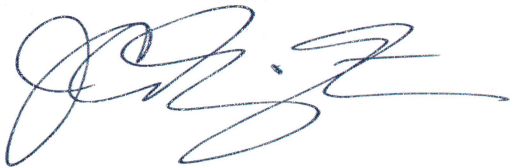
Sincerely,



Tom Tiffany
Member of Congress



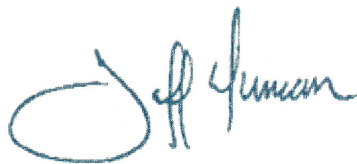
Brian Babin, D.D.S.
Member of Congress



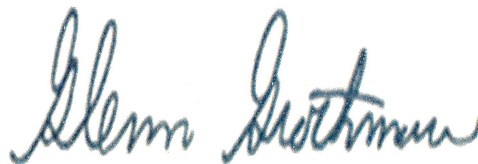
Jodey Arrington
Member of Congress



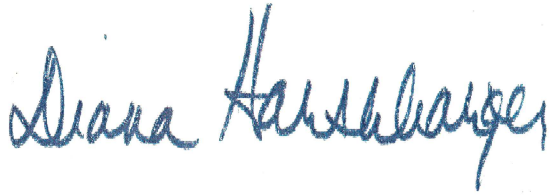
Mo Brooks
Member of Congress



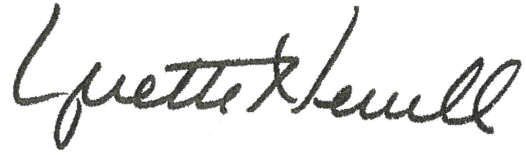
Jeff Duncan
Member of Congress



Glenn Grothman
Member of Congress



Diana Harsbarger
Member of Congress



Yvette Herrell
Member of Congress



Ronny Jackson
Member of Congress



Jeff Van Drew
Member of Congress