

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20515

June 16, 2022

The Honorable Linda Thomas-Greenfield
Representative of the United States of America to the United Nations
United States Mission to the United Nations
799 United Nations Plaza
New York, NY 10017

Dear Ambassador Thomas-Greenfield:

We are writing to express our concerns over the State Department's "Refugee Travel Loans" issued by the Bureau for Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM) to the United Nation's International Organization for Migration (IOM). It is important taxpayer funds are being used responsibly and the State Department is making every effort to collect on the loans within a reasonable amount of time.

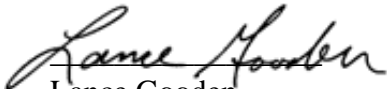
There is a serious lack of transparency surrounding the loan program, and as the ambassador to the United Nations, we ask that you ensure there are existing safeguards and policies to protect taxpayer funds. It has been reported from 1952 to 2002 the IOM issued \$1,020,803,910 in "transportation" loans and recovered only \$584,219,453. To maintain proper oversight, we request you provide details to the following questions with as much detail as possible. We also request you notify the United Nation's International Organization for Migration (IOM) and any partner resettlement agencies to retain all records reflecting the amount of Refugee Travel Loans furnished and repaid to the U.S. Government.


- All records reflecting the number of Refugee Travel Loans furnished by the State Department's Bureau for Population, Refugees, and Migration (PRM) to the International Organization for Migration (IOM) per year; the number of travel loans that are defaulted upon per year; and the amount of money written off per defaulted loan.
- All records reflecting the number of Refugee Travel Loans furnished using USG funds per year; the number of such travel loans that are defaulted upon per year; and the amount of money written off per defaulted loan.
- All records reflecting the amount of Refugee Travel Loans repaid to the federal government by resettlement agencies responsible for collecting the loans.

- Please provide a copy of the promissory note refugees sign if they decide to receive a Refugee Travel Loan.
- Please provide the IOM's policies and procedures for collecting Refugee Travel Loans.
 - Please specify what policies and procedures are in place for the United Nation's International Organization for Migration (IOM) and the following loan collection agencies: Church World Service, Immigration & Refugee Program (CWS), Domestic & Foreign Missionary Society, Episcopal Migration Ministries (DFMS), Hebrew Immigrant Aid Society (HIAS), International Rescue Committee (IRC), US Refugee Travel Loan Program, US Committee for Refugees and Immigrants (IRSA), Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service (LIRS), US Conference of Catholic Bishops, Migration and Refugee Services (USCCB), World Relief Refugee Services (WRRS).

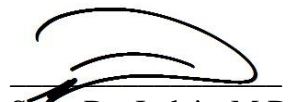
Thank you for your service and we look forward to your response. Please do not hesitate to contact our office if you have any other questions.

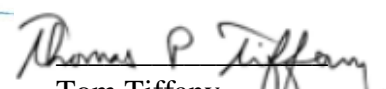
Sincerely,


Lance Gooden
Member of Congress


Bill Posey
Member of Congress


Byron Donalds
Member of Congress


Scott DesJarlais, M.D.
Member of Congress


Tom Tiffany
Member of Congress