

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

April 8, 2022

The Honorable Alejandro Mayorkas
Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
2707 Martin Luther King Jr Avenue, SE
Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Secretary Mayorkas:

We write to you regarding the April 1, 2022 announcement by the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) to terminate its order under Title 42 to suspend the entry of migrants into the United States. Title 42 is the strongest tool available to deter illegal immigration into our country and keep our borders secure during the COVID-19 pandemic. Our U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) agents and officers are already overwhelmed, and this decision will only exacerbate the current crisis.

Since its implementation in March 2020, Department of Homeland Security (DHS) has expelled more than 1.7 million migrants under Title 42, and just last month over 55 percent of migrants encountered along the southwest border were expelled.¹ It has been reported that your department is preparing to encounter upwards of 18,000 migrants crossing per day.² Additionally, reports indicate that between 30,000 and 60,000 migrants are already waiting in Mexico to cross.³

As you know, this planned termination will be implemented beginning on May 23, 2022, and will have massive implication for DHS and our CBP agents and officers. We write to request information on how DHS plans to secure the border in light of the lifting of Title 42 expulsion authorities. We have reviewed your fact sheet on the Departments preparations for increased migration but do not believe it adequately provides information in light of the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. Therefore, we request answers to the following questions, in writing, by May 1, 2022:

1. How does DHS plan to screen migrants for COVID-19 and other communicable diseases? What is the departments testing capacity?
2. Will a quarantine period be required for unvaccinated migrants? If so, where will they be quarantined?
3. Will vaccinations be administered to all migrants for COVID-19? If so, will these vaccinations be voluntary?

¹ "Nationwide Enforcement Encounters: Title 8 Enforcement Actions and Title 42 Expulsions 2022." *U.S. Customs and Border Protection*, 15 Mar. 2022, <https://www.cbp.gov/newsroom/stats/cbp-enforcement-statistics/title-8-and-title-42-statistics>.

² Barr, Luke. "US Bracing for Influx of Migrants at Southern Border If Title 42 Revoked: DHS." *ABC News*, ABC News Network, 29 Mar. 2022, <https://abcnews.go.com/US/us-bracing-influx-migrants-southern-border-title-42/story?id=83751437>.

³ Shoichet, Catherine E. "We're Expecting a Big Increase in Migrants at the US-Mexico Border. but This Time Is Different." *CNN*, Cable News Network, 1 Apr. 2022, <https://www.cnn.com/2022/03/31/politics/border-title-42-whats-next-cec/index.html>.

4. What will the department do with migrants who test positive for COVID-19? How will DHS officers and agents be protected from COVID-19 positive migrants?
5. Under what circumstances will you request resources and additional personnel from other U.S. government agencies?

Thank you for your attention to this critical matter.

Sincerely,



Mariannette Miller-Meeks, M.D.
Member of Congress



Dan Crenshaw
Member of Congress



Lisa McClain
Member of Congress



David B. McKinley, P.E.
Member of Congress



Jeff Van Drew
Member of Congress



Earl L. "Buddy" Carter
Member of Congress



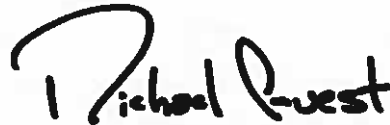
Ralph Norman
Member of Congress



Robert J. Wittman
Member of Congress



Mo Brooks
Member of Congress



Michael Guest
Member of Congress



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



Brad R. Wenstrup, D.P.M.
Member of Congress



Debbie Lesko
Member of Congress



Michelle Steel
Member of Congress



Andrew R. Garbarino
Member of Congress



Jake LaTurner
Member of Congress



Dan Meuser
Member of Congress



Glenn Grothman
Member of Congress



Fred Upton
Member of Congress



Joe Wilson
Member of Congress



Nancy Mace
Member of Congress



Bill Johnson
Member of Congress



Jim Banks
Member of Congress



Carlos A. Gimenez
Member of Congress



Alex Mooney
Member of Congress



Mike Kelly
Member of Congress



Kelly Armstrong
Member of Congress



Markwayne Mullin
Member of Congress



Adrian Smith
Member of Congress



Beth Van Duyne
Member of Congress



Blaine Luetkemeyer
Member of Congress



Chris Jacobs
Member of Congress



John R. Moolenaar
Member of Congress



Steven Palazzo
Member of Congress



Ken Buck
Member of Congress



Stephanie Bice
Member of Congress



John H. Rutherford
Member of Congress



Randy Feenstra
Member of Congress



Brian Mast
Member of Congress



Victoria Spartz
Member of Congress



Brian Fitzpatrick
Member of Congress



Kevin Hern
Member of Congress



Guy Reschenthaler
Member of Congress



David G. Valadao
Member of Congress



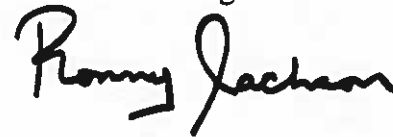
Peter Meijer
Member of Congress



Michelle Fischbach
Member of Congress



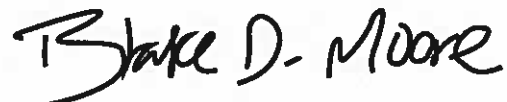
David Schweikert
Member of Congress



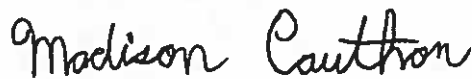
Ronny L. Jackson
Member of Congress



Rodney Davis
Member of Congress



Blake Moore
Member of Congress



Madison Cawthorn
Member of Congress



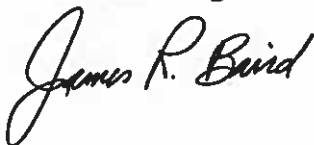
Maria Elvira Salazar
Member of Congress



Ashley Hinson
Member of Congress



Ron Estes
Member of Congress



James R. Baird
Member of Congress



Dan Newhouse
Member of Congress



Neal P. Dunn, M.D.
Member of Congress



Kat Cammack
Member of Congress



Jake Ellzey
Member of Congress



Burgess Owens
Member of Congress



Bill Posey
Member of Congress



Drew Ferguson
Member of Congress



Mike Simpson
Member of Congress