



OFFICE OF THE COUNTY JUDGE

County of Hidalgo

RICHARD F. CORTEZ

County Judge

July 30, 2021

President Joseph R. Biden
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear President Biden:

I write you today with an extremely pressing issue. The ongoing immigrant surge along our country's Southern Border demands immediate and decisive action.

As County Judge, it is my responsibility to advocate for the well-being of the residents of Hidalgo County. While I am sympathetic to the plight of asylum seekers, we must address their needs in a safe, compassionate, and humane manner without risking the well-being of our community.

The promise of the American Dream remains a beacon of hope and righteousness across the world, however, the situation along our border is not sustainable. I invite you to please come to our community to witness first-hand the challenges being created by current policy.

Mr. President, Hidalgo County needs an immediate increase of federal manpower and resources to address immigrants currently within our jurisdiction and also the immediate cessation of admissions of additional immigrants in the RGV Sector.

Sincerely,

Richard F. Cortez
County Judge
Hidalgo County, Texas

Cc: The Honorable Kamala Harris, United States Vice-President
The Honorable Nancy Pelosi, Speaker of the House of Representatives
The Honorable Alejandro N. Mayorkas, Secretary of U.S. Homeland Security
Chief Raul Ortiz, U.S. Border Patrol, U.S. Customs and Border Protection
Rio Grande Valley Federal Delegation