

STATE OF ARIZONA

JANICE K. BREWER  
GOVERNOR

EXECUTIVE OFFICE

June 12, 2014

The Honorable John Boehner  
Speaker of the House  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Harry Reid  
Senate Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Speaker Boehner and Majority Leader Reid:

By now, you are well aware of the current crisis plaguing the United States Border Patrol's Rio Grande Valley Sector and flooding into Arizona and other parts of the country. Nearly two weeks ago, I wrote a letter to President Obama expressing my urgent concern that the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS) is transporting an unknown number of adults and family units of illegal aliens from the south Texas border and releasing them at bus stations in Tucson and Phoenix. Additionally, they are transporting, detaining, and processing unaccompanied children in Arizona and then moving them to military bases in other states. As we continue to learn more daily about this situation, it has become quite clear that the chaos occurring at the Arizona-Mexico border is more than disconcerting – it is intentional and unconscionable.

Our country is in the midst of a crisis manufactured by President Obama and his administration's refusal to enforce our nation's immigration laws. As a result, thousands of people from Central America – including unaccompanied children – are flooding into the United States and not fleeing from, but surrendering to, United States Border Patrol officials.

By the Obama administration's own estimation, 230,000 unaccompanied alien minors are expected to cross through the Rio Grande Sector by the end of next year. **It has become clear that the administration has encouraged this massive influx and intends to continue ignoring the states' calls to end this policy.** Furthermore, it is indisputably evident that our border is not secure and is hardly "more secure than ever." Consequently, if Border Patrol is overwhelmed, what consideration is being given – and what is being done – to determine if any of these illegal aliens have criminal histories or gang affiliations? For example, we know that MS-13, one of the world's most notorious international gangs, has strong ties to several of the Central American countries from which these aliens are arriving. The administration's refusal to properly verify that violent criminals are not among those entering the United States shows an alarming lack of concern for our homeland's security. As a nation, we cannot sit back and allow this policy to continue.

The Honorable John Boehner and Harry Reid

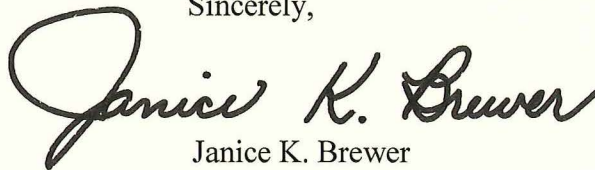
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The Obama administration is not forthcoming with answers. As congressional leaders, you have the ability to take action, get answers and stop the lawlessness that is unfolding. On behalf of the State of Arizona, I ask you to do so.

Protecting our nation and its citizens is the federal government's primary and fundamental responsibility, but it cannot be done as long as we have an unsecured border and a federal executive that invites and encourages illegal activity. I urge you to use your voice, and the authority of your offices and the institutions you lead, to immediately and permanently terminate this atrocious policy and stop this massive, unfettered influx of illegal crossings into our country.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janice K. Brewer". The signature is fluid and cursive, with the first name "Janice" being larger and more prominent than the last name "Brewer".

Janice K. Brewer  
Governor

cc: Arizona Congressional Delegation  
The Honorable Darrell Issa, Chairman, House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform  
The Honorable Michael McCaul, Chairman, House Committee on Homeland Security  
The Honorable Robert Goodlatte, Chairman, House Committee on the Judiciary  
The Honorable Patrick Leahy, Chairman, Senate Committee on the Judiciary  
The Honorable Thomas R. Carper, Chairman, Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs