

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

November 23, 2021

The Honorable Merrick Garland
Attorney General
United States Department of Justice
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20530

The Honorable Xavier Becerra
Secretary
United States Department of Health
and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Washington, DC 20201

The Honorable Alejandro Mayorkas
Secretary
United States Department of Homeland Security
2707 Martin Luther King Jr. Avenue, SE
Washington, DC 20528

Dear Attorney General Garland, Secretary Mayorkas, and Secretary Becerra:

In the wake of reports regarding your three agencies' plans for \$450,000 per person payouts to illegal immigrants, we urge you to condemn this idea and instead consider a way to compensate Angel Families and other victims for their suffering and loss of loved ones due to reckless open border policies, such as those advanced by the Biden Administration and its neglect of our nation's border laws.

Crossing the border illegally should never be rewarded, but the Biden Administration has incessantly pursued border policies that incentivize mass illegal immigration. We're experiencing record illegal crossings due to the President's open borders rhetoric, pursuit of mass amnesty, and attacks on successful policies like construction of the border wall or "Remain-in-Mexico." But your proposed payments to those who willfully break our laws represents the most radical, morally bankrupt, and wasteful idea of them all. In fact, it is a slap in the face to Angel Families.

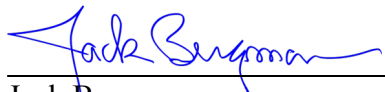
Angel Families are those that have lost family members to illegal immigrants, and they're becoming all too common due to the gravely mishandled border crisis. When you welcome a border surge and simultaneously withhold the resources and authorities to manage and vet illegal immigrants, you also allow dangerous criminals into our communities. Many of these deadly acts were entirely avoidable because they were committed by deportable immigrants and immigrants who were released from federal custody into the interior.

Illegal immigrants ignored the law and you seek to pay them. Your agencies ignored the law and innocent Americans died. Instead of massive payments for “lasting psychological trauma” to illegal immigrants who knowingly committed a crime and were being prosecuted by the previous administration under the law, we urge you to compensate Americans victimized by the federal government’s failure to enforce immigration law, especially the families of those who were killed by illegal immigrants.

Please respond to this letter with your intentions to establish a pathway for Angel Families and other American victims to be compensated for their losses caused by the federal government’s blatant refusal to defend our border. Should a pathway already exist, such as through the Federal Tort Claims Act, we request additional information on this process and your intentions to publicize opportunities for compensation. Should a pathway not exist and not be feasible to establish by regulation, we request additional information on what legislative authorities you may be lacking to create one.

While no amount of compensation will ever make these victims and their families whole again, we stand ready to lessen their burden in any way and work with you to end the border crisis. Thank you for your consideration of this important request.

Sincerely,



Jack Bergman
Member of Congress



Bill Johnson
Member of Congress



Ted Budd
Member of Congress



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



Garret Graves
Member of Congress



Ronny L. Jackson
Member of Congress



Andy Harris, M.D.
Member of Congress



Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S.
Member of Congress



William R. Timmons IV
Member of Congress



Andy Biggs
Member of Congress



Randy K. Weber, Sr.
Member of Congress



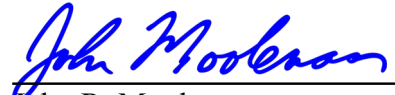
Bob Good
Member of Congress



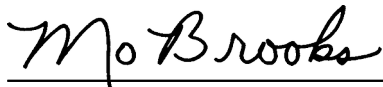
Louie Gohmert
Member of Congress



Eric A. "Rick" Crawford
Member of Congress



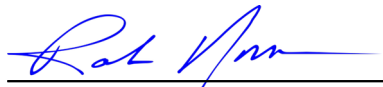
John R. Moolenaar
Member of Congress



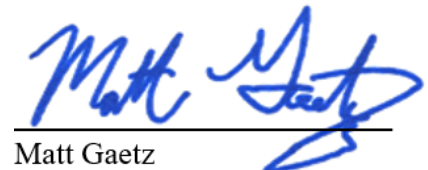
Mo Brooks
Member of Congress



Ben Cline
Member of Congress



Ralph Norman
Member of Congress



Matt Gaetz
Member of Congress