



Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-6501

January 26, 2024

Dear Colleagues,

Warm greetings from the Hill. I trust everyone had a productive district work period.

I wanted to provide a brief update regarding the supplemental and the border, since the Senate appears unable to reach any agreement. If rumors about the contents of the draft proposal are true, it would have been dead on arrival in the House anyway.

Nine months have now passed since we sent our Secure the Border Act (H.R. 2) to the Senate. As we have explained repeatedly, that bill contains the core legislative reforms that are necessary to actually compel the Biden Administration to resolve the border catastrophe.

The bill's provisions include transformative corrections, such as the "Remain in Mexico" policy, the end of "Catch and Release," meaningful reforms to the existing broken asylum and parole systems, and continued construction of a wall at our southern border. Since the day I became Speaker, I have assured our Senate colleagues the House would not accept any counterproposal if it would not actually solve the problems that have been created by the administration's subversive policies.

The facts show that President Biden and his Homeland Security Secretary Mayorkas have willfully ignored and actively undermined our nation's immigration laws. My office has documented at least 64 specific actions taken by his administration that effectively opened our border and insituted the current chaos. Rather than accept accountability, President Biden is now trying to blame Congress for what HE himself intentionally created.

The American people know better, and that's why public opinion polls show the country has overwhelmingly sided with us on this issue. When we return next week, by necessity, the House Homeland Security Committee will move forward with Articles of Impeachment against Secretary Mayorkas. A vote on the floor will be held as soon as possible thereafter.

Many of our constituents have asked an important question: "What is the point of negotiating new laws with an administration that will not enforce the laws already on the books?" If President Biden wants us to believe he is serious about protecting our national sovereignty, he needs to demonstrate his good faith by taking immediate actions to secure it. He should sign an order right now to end the mass release of illegals and dangerous persons into our country. If he wants our conference to view him as a good faith negotiator, he can start with the stroke of a pen.

I have made these demands to the President repeatedly: in a letter late last year; in a phone call two weeks ago; and again at our meeting in the Cabinet Room last week. I relayed to him the shocking information we gathered on our trip to Eagle Pass, Texas, earlier this month with 64 House Republicans, and I delivered the pleas of our brave Border Patrol agents and law enforcement officers there on the ground. I insisted to the President that the American people can no longer tolerate the record encounters with illegals (302,000+ in December alone), the overwhelming number of deaths from fentanyl poisoning, human trafficking, the admission of terrorists into our country, and the crushing burdens his policies are inflicting upon all our states and communities.

I made clear that we stand with Texas Governor Greg Abbott in his heroic efforts to protect the citizens of his state and all Americans, and I am emphasizing again today that House Republicans will vigorously oppose any policy proposal from the White House or Senate that would further incentivize illegal aliens to break our laws.

Thank you all for uniting in this fateful battle for our border and our national sovereignty. Together, we can ensure that the will of the American people is done.

Sincerely,

Mike Johnson
Speaker of the House