

**Congress of the United States**  
**Washington, DC 20515**

June 21, 2018

The Honorable Greg Abbott  
Governor of Texas  
State Capitol  
P.O Box 12428  
Austin, TX 78711-2428

Dear Governor Abbott:

We are in receipt of your letter dated June 19, 2018, regarding the importance of immigration legislation and border issues.

Although it is refreshing to hear from you after so many months of silence from your office on issues critical to our state and our nation, including NAFTA, the border wall, the separation of children and families, and the constant verbal assault on immigrants and refugees from the White House, we take great issue with the tone and content of your letter.

It is disappointing to see our governor make the reckless and baseless assertion that it is our Texas Democratic Caucus who is refusing to take action on these issues or participate in crafting practical solutions. A basic Google search will reveal precisely which caucus is working to address challenges related to our Southern border and which caucus is stonewalling any honest effort to do the same.

The reality is that each member of our caucus is vocal and active on issues related to immigration along the border. Each of us has agreed to work with the Majority to modernize NAFTA, stop the construction of a border wall, keep families together, treat immigrants and refugees with respect, and pass comprehensive immigration reform.

We anxiously await them joining us to do the right thing.

We asked to be included in recent talks regarding the border, but the President did not include us. What is called Rep. Goodlatte's "compromise" immigration bill reflects this highly partisan process, for it only represents a compromise among Republicans. The many bipartisan solutions that have been proposed, such as the Dream Act, the Uniting and Securing America Act, and the queen-of-the-hill immigration discharge petition, have all been stalled by the Majority.


As someone who has spent more than \$1 billion in an effort to improve border security with very little positive results to show for it, we know that you understand how complex this issue is and the importance of working together to realize real results.

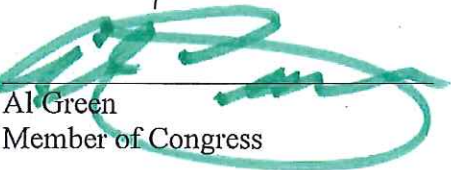
We are grateful to hear that you believe both parties should work together to address these challenges.

In the spirit of setting aside partisanship and focusing on getting the job done for the taxpayers we all represent, perhaps in the future you should make an honest assessment about who is doing what and address your concerns to them regardless of their party.

Our caucus looks forward to working with you and your party on these very important issues.

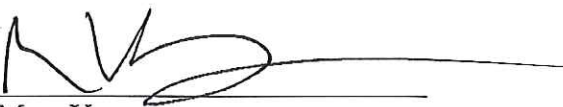
Sincerely,

  
Henry Cuellar  
Member of Congress

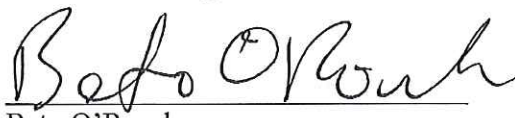
  
Al Green  
Member of Congress

  
Sheila Jackson Lee  
Member of Congress

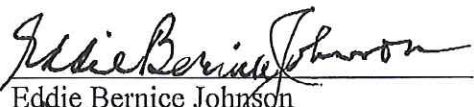
  
Gene Green  
Member of Congress


  
Marc Veasey  
Member of Congress

  
Vicente Gonzalez  
Member of Congress

  
Beto O'Rourke  
Member of Congress

  
Joaquin Castro  
Member of Congress

  
Eddie Bernice Johnson  
Member of Congress

  
Filemon Vela  
Member of Congress