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COMMITTEES:
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Dear Attorney General Henry:

We write to urge you to join several other jurisdictions supporting Texas' legal efforts to maintain its ability to defend itself against foreign threats at the southern border. Operation Lone Star, a joint operation between the Texas Department of Public Safety and the Texas Military Department, was established in 2021 to deter the overwhelming flow of undocumented migrants crossing into the United States from Mexico. While Operation Lone Star should be credited for, in a relatively short span of time, apprehending approximately 500,000 undocumented immigrants and seizing enough Mexican fentanyl to kill the entire population of the United States, additional manpower and resources are urgently needed to stem the tides of unlawful migration, human trafficking, and deadly narcotics trafficking.

Rather than commending Texas' initiative in tackling this threat or providing aid and assistance to Texas and other border states facing a particular burden due to their location, the Biden Administration has instead focused its efforts on frustrating Texas' operations, including through litigation in the Federal courts. At a time when the Federal government has demonstrated an unmistakable aversion to countering this ever-increasing surge in illegal immigration, we encourage you to honor your commitment to upholding the rule of law by supporting Texas' efforts to protect our Union from the existential threat at our southern border. As Pennsylvania's chief law enforcement official, it is within your authority to lend Pennsylvania's assistance to Texas in its legal dispute with the Federal government over its authority to secure the border. We ask you to take any and all available steps to do so.

Since 2021, the number of migrants who have unlawfully crossed our southern border is greater than the individual populations of 38 states. In December of 2023 alone, more than 300,000 undocumented immigrants managed to enter the United States illegally. Predictably, the surge in unlawful migration has played a significant role in several developing crises throughout the United States and this Commonwealth, including the rise in both drug addiction and violent crime. In 2023, the number of overdose deaths exceeded 112,000 in the United States. According to the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, this figure marks the highest 12-month overdose death total in history. A 2021 report published by the Department of Justice noted that 64% of all federal arrests in 2018 involved non-US citizens although they represented only 7% of the total United States' population at that time.

While we do not doubt that many of the undocumented immigrants entering the United States are merely seeking better lives and opportunities, our country has recently witnessed a number of high-profile, violent crimes committed by undocumented immigrants who have entered our country with

mal-intent. Within the course of several months last year, a Mexican national was arrested by police after being accused of drugging and raping at least 10 boys in Tennessee; a Mexican national was arrested and charged with brutally murdering an entire family of Honduran migrants near Houston, Texas; and six undocumented immigrants – three of whom were members of the violent Central American MS-13 gang – were charged with the murder of a boy in Maryland. In this Commonwealth, a Brazilian national and undocumented immigrant made national headlines after escaping from a prison where he was serving a life sentence for killing his girlfriend in front of her young children and leading police on a colossal manhunt.

Pennsylvania's assistance to Texas in defending its lawful sovereignty to secure the border will send an important message to all Americans that the states, regardless of political leaning or affiliation, remain sovereign entities responsible for the defense of their residents and the security of the country. We hope that you see the urgent need to support Texas in its ongoing endeavors and will commit the resources of your office to doing so.

Sincerely,




Representative Michael Cabell
117th Legislative District



Representative Russ Diamond
102nd Legislative District



Representative Jacob Banta
4th Legislative District



Representative Jason Ortitay
46th Legislative District



Representative Ryan Mackenzie
187th Legislative District



Representative Marla Brown
9th Legislative District



Representative Milou Mackenzie
131st Legislative District



Representative Stephanie Borowicz
76th Legislative District



Representative Marci Mustello
11th Legislative District



Representative Eric Nelson
57th Legislative District



Representative Tim Bonner
17th Legislative District



Representative Kate Klunk
169th Legislative District



Representative Robert Mercuri
28th Legislative District



Representative Alec Ryncavage
119th Legislative District



Representative Ryan Warner
52nd Legislative District

Representative Jill Cooper
55th Legislative District

Representative John Schlegel
101st Legislative District

Representative Aaron Bernstine
8th Legislative District

Representative Rich Irvin
81st Legislative District

Representative Martin Causer
67th Legislative District

Representative Donna Oberlander
63rd Legislative District

Representative Ann Flood
138th Legislative District

Representative Tom Jones
98th Legislative District

Representative Joseph Adams
139th Legislative District

Representative Torren Ecker
193rd Legislative District



Representative Rob Kauffman
89th Legislative District



Representative Donna Scheuren
147th Legislative District



Representative Seth Grove
196th Legislative District



Representative Joanne Stehr
107th Legislative District



Representative Joshua Kail
15th Legislative District



Representative Eric Davanzo
58th Legislative District



Representative Armanini
75th Legislative District



Representative Thomas Kutz
87th Legislative District



Representative John Lawrence
13th Legislative District



Representative Jamie Flick
83rd Legislative District



Representative Clint Owlett
68th Legislative District



Representative Dane Watro
116th Legislative District



Representative Timothy O'Neal
48th Legislative District



Representative Tina Pickett
110th Legislative District



Representative Jonathan Fritz
111th Legislative District



Representative Bryan Cutler
100th Legislative District



Representative Jack Rader
176th Legislative District



Representative Kathy Rapp
65th Legislative District



Representative Joseph Hamm
84th Legislative District



Representative Robert Leadbeter
109th Legislative District