

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0919

June 16, 2021

The Honorable Xavier Becerra
Secretary
Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, Southwest
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Becerra:

There is a crisis at our Southern Border, whether or not the Biden Administration would like to acknowledge that or not. If the President, Vice President, or Democrat leader in Washington traveled to our border, they would see firsthand the ongoing humanitarian and national security crisis at our Southern Border. This catastrophe of illegal immigration is one of the Administrations' making, and now it is up to all of us to work together to ensure the safety and welfare of U.S. citizens.

To this end, we are deeply concerned about reports that the Department of Health and Human Services has diverted more than \$2 billion that Congress appropriated for COVID-19-related health initiatives toward covering the cost of housing and transportation of unaccompanied immigrant children.¹ Every child on earth deserves dignity and a safe place to live and grow, but it is the Biden Administration's policies that are encouraging children to make the dangerous trek to our Southern Border. This must end for the safety and security of these migrant children, the lives of whom your administration's policies are putting at risk each and every day.

It is further disheartening to hear that the Biden Administration has been awarding contracts to put up migrant families in hotel rooms and move them around the country on buses and commercial Airplanes,² as some of us have witnessed when flying domestically. Our frustration is further exacerbated by the aforementioned misguided decision to divert billions of dollars away from helping Americans deal with COVID-19 so that illegal aliens can rest in hotels, courtesy of the taxes you have taken from American workers.

As such, we are requesting you provide us with information regarding the following:

1. All funds spent or obligated on the Office of Refugee Resettlement's (ORR) Unaccompanied Children (UC) program, including taxpayer dollars spent on licensed shelter beds, influx shelters, emergency intake sites, and all costs expended on transportation of unaccompanied children and sponsors.
2. A description and justification of any additional expenses or obligations related to UC's in any capacity outside of ORR's UC program.

3. All funds spent or obligated related to migrant housing, transportation, processing, and health/medical-related activities and programs.

We believe that members of Congress are entitled to complete transparency regarding the use of taxpayer dollars, particularly given our growing concerns regarding the ongoing crisis at the Southern Border. A complete picture and accounting of the resources in question will help Congress engineer solutions accordingly.

Sincerely,



Byron Donalds
Member of Congress



Andy Biggs
Member of Congress



Glenn Grothman
Member of Congress



Diane Harshbarger
Member of Congress



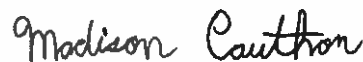
Yvette Herell
Member of Congress



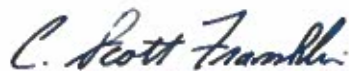
Ralph Norman
Member of Congress



Rep. Pete Sessions
Member of Congress



Madison Cawthorn
Member of Congress



Scott Franklin
Member of Congress



Michael Cloud
Member of Congress

ⁱ *Politico* article dated May 15, 2021: <https://www.politico.com/news/2021/05/15/hhs-covid-stockpile-money-border-migrants-488427>

ⁱⁱ *Axios* article dated March 20, 2021: <https://www.axios.com/ice-hotel-rooms-border-migrant-families-7682092b-952c-428e-ae3b-f8b2d4072c0a.html>