

HIDALGO COUNTY SHERIFF'S OFFICE

Sheriff: *Warren D. Walter*



720 East 2nd Street
Lordsburg, New Mexico 88045
Phone: 575-542-3833



January 28, 2021

To: Congresswoman Yvette Herrell
From: Sherriff Warren D. Walter
Ref: Support Letter

Dear Congresswoman Yvette Herrell,

I Warren D. Walter, Sheriff of Hidalgo County support Congresswoman Herrell's introduction to maintain existing border health protections during the COVID-19 pandemic. The CDC's order of "Title 42" is an important factor in keeping citizens of Hidalgo County and the United States as safe as possible and to prevent more spreading of COVID-19.

Hidalgo County, New Mexico is a vast and rural area consisting of 3,447 square miles in southwest New Mexico sharing 86 miles of International Border with Mexico and over 800 miles of state and county roads, 3 of which come from the bordering country of Mexico. The Hidalgo County Sheriff's Office is a small department consisting of 7-8 Deputies and has one Port of Entry, Antelope Wells located in the southeastern portion of Hidalgo County.

It is in the utmost importance that legislation is introduced to prevent President Biden from ending policies that allow the removal of those who illegally enter the United States, especially while there is a global pandemic occurring. In 2019, Hidalgo and our neighboring counties which consist of Luna and Dona Ana experienced hundreds of asylum seekers entering illegally into these 3 counties for a long period of time.

Hidalgo County does not have the resources to give aid to asylum seekers that would be allowed to freely enter the United States and even more while there is a global pandemic. I am totally against the repeal of Title 42 and appreciate the efforts of Congresswoman Herrell.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Warren D. Walter".

Warren D. Walter
Hidalgo County Sheriff