June 3, 2021

The Honorable Chuck Schumer
Majority Leader
322 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Mitch McConnell
Minority Leader
317 Russell Senate Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Leader Schumer and Leader McConnell:

We urge you to reject President Biden’s nominees to lead U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS), U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP), and U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE).

Since taking office, President Joe Biden has unleashed the worst border crisis in two decades. He inherited a border that was more secure than it was four years ago and a set of policies that were effective in preventing illegal immigration. Yet President Biden repealed or modified those policies and created a border crisis. President Biden’s nominees either helped develop the policies that have produced the crisis or have shown an unwillingness to enforce immigration law. They will not enact the changes necessary to end the crisis.

In April, over 178,000 illegal aliens were encountered at the border, representing a 944 percent increase from the prior year. April was not an anomaly; in March, more than 173,000 were encountered, in February more than 101,000 were encountered. The inhumane border crisis that the Biden administration’s policies created is growing.

The administration has reinstated catch and release policies. It is spending hundreds of millions of U.S. taxpayer dollars to transport and house illegal aliens in the interior of the United States. In many cases, aliens are released without a Notice to Appear. Pretending that illegal aliens will report to ICE offices to be placed into removal proceedings is sheer folly.

The crisis is happening because of a methodical undoing of successful border security and immigration policies. The Biden administration stopped construction of the border wall, ended the successful Migrant Protection Protocols, attempted to halt all deportations, promised the largest amnesty in American history, and declared the United States a sanctuary country by limiting enforcement of our immigration laws.

You are now being asked to consider the nominations of key personnel at the Department of Homeland Security (DHS). President Biden has nominated Ur Jaddou to serve as the Director of USCIS, Chris Magnus to serve as Commissioner of CBP, and Ed Gonzalez to serve as an Assistant Secretary of Homeland Security (Director of ICE). All three of these nominations should be rejected.

Ur Jaddou led the Biden-Harris transition team’s review of DHS. In this role she developed the policies that created the current crisis at the southern border. Chris Magnus publicly defended
sanctuary jurisdiction policies that encourage illegal immigration, make it more difficult for DHS to enforce immigration law, and endanger federal law enforcement officers.

While serving as Sheriff of Harris County, Texas, Ed Gonzalez terminated a formal cooperation agreement with ICE, the agency he is now nominated to lead. He prohibited his deputies from participating in immigration enforcement actions with federal partners including ICE.

The policies that these nominees promoted in their previous positions clearly demonstrate the nominees will be unwilling to make the decisions necessary to enforce the law and end the current border crisis. Confirming these nominees would endorse the policies that created the crisis. We respectfully request that you reject these nominees in favor of individuals dedicated to protecting our national security, sovereignty, and well-being.

Sincerely,

Andy Biggs  
Member of Congress  
Co-Chair, Border Security Caucus

Brian Babin, D.D.S.  
Member of Congress  
Co-Chair, Border Security Caucus

Matthew Rosendale, Sr.  
Member of Congress

Ted Budd  
Member of Congress

W. Gregory Steube  
Member of Congress

Yvette Herrell  
Member of Congress

Diana Harshbarger  
Member of Congress

Bill Johnson  
Member of Congress
Ann Wagner  
Member of Congress

Warren Davidson  
Member of Congress

Barry Moore  
Member of Congress

Mo Brooks  
Member of Congress

Jim Banks  
Member of Congress

Glenn Grothman  
Member of Congress

Jody Hice  
Member of Congress

John Joyce, M.D.  
Member of Congress

Lauren Boebert  
Member of Congress

Brian Mast  
Member of Congress

Bill Posey  
Member of Congress

Marjorie Taylor Greene  
Member of Congress
Randy K. Weber  
Member of Congress

Bob Good  
Member of Congress

Tom McClintock  
Member of Congress

Lance Gooden  
Member of Congress

Scott Perry  
Member of Congress

Madison Cawthorn  
Member of Congress

Jodey C. Arrington  
Member of Congress

Mike Rogers  
Member of Congress

Jeff Duncan  
Member of Congress

Victoria Spartz  
Member of Congress

Chip Roy  
Member of Congress