

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

September 9, 2011

The Honorable Barack Obama  
President of the United States  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue  
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

Members of the bipartisan Immigration Reform Caucus along with members of the House vehemently oppose your August 18, 2011 announcement to bypass Congress and use prosecutorial discretion to achieve amnesty for individuals who are illegally residing in the U.S. The manner with which your administration has introduced this policy not only robs the public of a thorough vetting, but it also fails to appreciate the negative consequences of this policy shift.

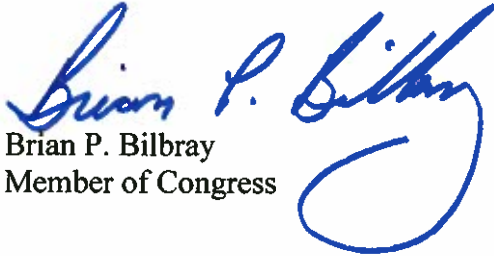
Over the last several years, with the support of the American public, Congress has consistently defeated amnesty proposals for illegal aliens. This recent effort appears to be nothing more than an attempt to avoid public review and unilaterally impose amnesty by picking and choosing which laws to enforce; or in this case, not to enforce, thereby enabling illegal aliens to remain in the country.

In addition, we are convinced the consequences of implementing this policy, will include, but certainly not be limited to, the loss of public confidence and the encouragement of future illegal immigration. Even prior to this, the American public's confidence in the Administration to address illegal immigration was tenuous at best. This is evidenced by the number of states that have initiated and passed their own immigration enforcement laws. This shift in policy confirms the general public's suspicion that the Administration is not serious about controlling illegal immigration.

Also, this policy has the added affect of further encouraging illegal immigration. Frankly put, if we don't take our own laws seriously enough to enforce, why should we expect anyone to follow them? This policy will introduce a new wave of illegal immigrants emboldened with the knowledge that not only is it okay to break the law, but they will likely be rewarded for it with de facto amnesty status; thereby exacerbating an already vicious cycle we as a nation have been trying to address for over two decades.

This attempt to satisfy the narrow interests of the pro-amnesty lobby has ultimately earned the distrust of the greater American public. Our fear is that this policy will irreparably harm the prospects of true immigration reform for many years to come. Mr. President, our request is simple: enforce our immigration laws evenly without passion, prejudice or preference.


Sincerely,



Brian P. Bilbray  
Member of Congress



Ed Royce  
Member of Congress



John Culberson  
Member of Congress




Phil Gingrey  
Member of Congress




Ted Poe  
Member of Congress



Lou Barletta  
Member of Congress



Paul Gosar  
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Dana Rohrabacher  
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Trent Franks  
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Steven Palazzo  
Member of Congress



Sue Myrick  
Member of Congress



Walter B. Jones  
Member of Congress



Michael McCaul  
Member of Congress



David Schweikert  
Member of Congress



Mike Rogers  
Member of Congress



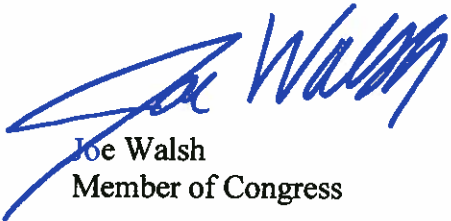
Louie Gohmert  
Member of Congress



Jeff Duncan  
Member of Congress



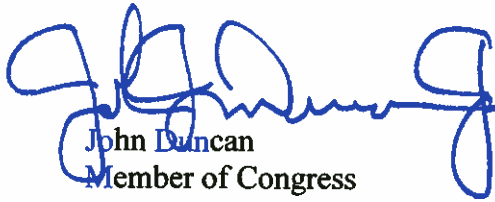
Mo Brooks  
Member of Congress



Joe Walsh  
Member of Congress



Allen West  
Member of Congress



John Duncan  
Member of Congress



Gary Miller  
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Doug Lamborn  
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John Kline  
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Ed Whitfield  
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John Campbell  
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Dan Burton  
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Bill Huizenga  
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Donald Manzullo  
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Virginia Foxx  
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Raul Labrador  
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Geoff Davis  
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Joe Wilson  
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Lynn A. Westmoreland  
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Phil Roe  
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Adam Kinzinger  
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Blaine Luetkemeyer  
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Steve Stivers  
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Alan Nunnelee  
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Kenny Marchant  
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Marsha Blackburn  
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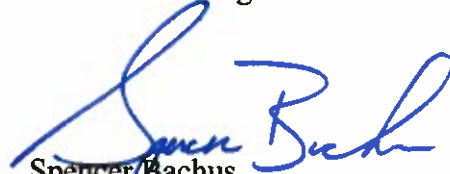
Diane Black  
Member of Congress



Andy Harris  
Member of Congress



Michael Fitzpatrick  
Member of Congress



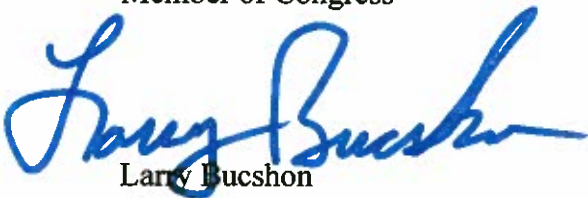
Spencer Bachus  
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Ken Calvert  
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Mike Kelly  
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Larry Bucshon  
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Dan Benishek  
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Dennis Ross  
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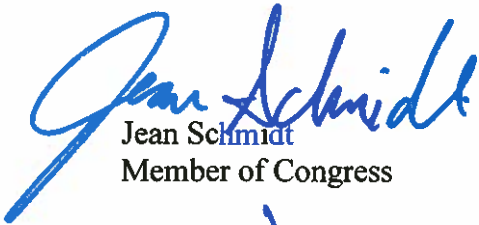
Sandy Adams  
Member of Congress



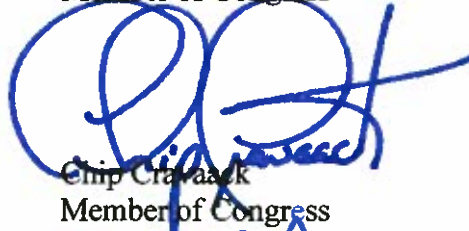
James Lankford  
Member of Congress



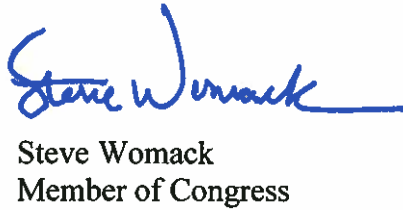
Scott DesJarlais  
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Jean Schmidt  
Member of Congress



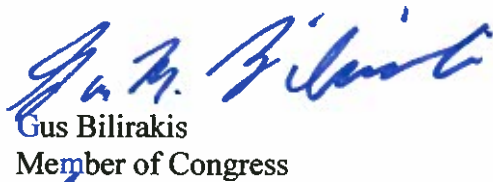
Chip Cravaack  
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Steve Womack  
Member of Congress



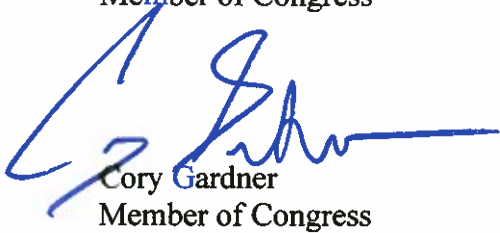
Bill Posey  
Member of Congress



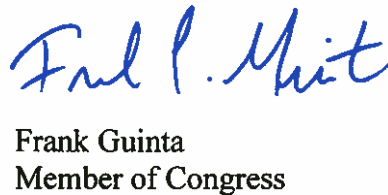
Gus Bilirakis  
Member of Congress



Tim Griffin  
Member of Congress



Cory Gardner  
Member of Congress



Frank Guinta  
Member of Congress



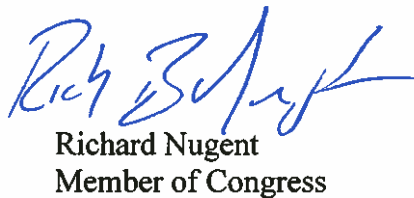
Mike Pompeo  
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Ben Quayle  
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Jason Chaffetz  
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Richard Nugent  
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Vern Buchanan  
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