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COMMITTEE ON
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Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-4319

March 26, 2021

Vice President Kamala Harris
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Vice President Harris,

Thank you for your service to our country and congratulations on your recent appointment to lead on the Administration's efforts at our southern border.

Earlier this week, you mentioned that you plan to visit the southern border "at some point." In light of that commitment, we would like to invite you to join 13 members of the Texas delegation as we travel to the border next week from Monday, March 29th until Wednesday, March 31st. We will be visiting McAllen, Laredo, and Carrizo Springs, and would be happy to host you for any portion of the trip.

During our visit, we plan to meet with local stakeholders, the Drug Enforcement Administration (DEA), United States Coast Guard, U.S. Customs and Border Patrol and visit the Laredo Port of Entry and the Carrizo Springs Influx Care Facility.

The goal of this visit will be to see first-hand what the officials and fellow citizens on our southern border are facing on a day-to-day basis. We hope to hear about and witness what encounters and roadblocks they hit when dealing with the overwhelming amount of border crossings and the issues they must address including health screenings, housing, food and transportation needs. In addition to the crossings themselves, we will hear from the DEA about the seizures they conduct every day and the number of drugs they see in our country that originate south of the border.

As the newly appointed lead of the Biden Administration's response to the crisis at our southern border, we hope you share our grave concerns about the overwhelming number of crossings and the lack of resources available to accommodate these individuals. We would appreciate the opportunity to work with your Administration to implement policies that will discourage illegal immigration and secure our southern border. Lastly, as the Vice President of the United States, we hope you will prioritize policies that ensure the safety and health of United States citizens.

We hope that you can join us for any portion of our tour of the southern border next week. Please contact my office with any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'J.C. Arrington', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Jodey C. Arrington

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Brian Babin', with a stylized flourish at the end.

Brian Babin, D.D.S.