March 21, 2018

Dear Member of Congress:

Congress must act to pass legislation to secure our borders through enforcing immigration laws, tightening border security, support the replacement and upgrades to current barriers and fencing and construction of barriers along the U.S. and Mexico international boundary as requested by those areas where it is needed, suspending and/or monitoring the issuance of visas to any place where adequate vetting cannot occur, end criminal cooperation and shelter in cities, counties, and states, and have zero tolerance and increased repercussions for criminal aliens.

I stand firm with my fellow Sheriffs throughout our nation to have our borders secured first, in full cooperation and support of our promise and mission to uphold and enforce our nation’s laws, and we expect nothing less from Congress.

As elected Sheriffs, we have taken an oath to do everything in our power to keep our citizens and legal residents, our communities, and our nation safe. Year after year, we have been warning the Federal government about detrimental increases in transnational drug trafficking, gang violence, sex trafficking, murder, and other escalating incidents of crime by illegal aliens entering our country.

Because Congress has failed to enact the necessary reforms, our citizens and legal residents face even greater dangers, our national security is more vulnerable, and our enforcement efforts have been seriously compromised.

Sadly, today some state and local officials have been enacting policies and giving lawbreakers shelter from being rightfully prosecuted and removed from our communities. In fact, these same laws forbid law enforcement agencies from cooperating with one another, and go as far as forcing the release of dangerous criminals into our communities exposing our citizens and legal residents to be victimized once again.

In a recent announcement a certain state has even stated that they will prosecute law-abiding, hard-working business owners if they cooperate with law enforcement to identify and remove lawbreakers from the community drives our justice system to a new low. We cannot have law-abiding citizens threatened with criminal prosecution for cooperating with the very people who they trust to protect them.

The Sheriffs of this nation and all our law enforcement partners understand that the oath we took to uphold and enforce our laws is the guarantee that they can trust us to preserve their safety and protect their well-being.
The failure of Congress to create legitimate and comprehensive immigration reform for more than 20 years has dramatically undermined our ability to keep our communities safe. This not only puts our law enforcement at serious risk for danger, but further puts them in an untenable situation of violating our oath and promise to enforce the law.

Further delay and inaction on immigration reform will cost more innocent lives, more financial hardships, and an even greater decline in the public trust that is essential to the preservation of our Republic.

Without border security and immigration reform, more Americans will continue to be victims of crime. Now is the time to act!

Sincerely,

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Columbia County, AR - Sheriff Mike Loe
Logan County, AR - Sheriff Boyd D. Hicks
Apache County, AZ - Sheriff Joe Dedman
Cochise County, AZ - Sheriff Mark J. Dannels
La Paz County, AZ - Sheriff Bill Risen
Mohave County, AZ - Sheriff Doug Shuster
Pinal County, AZ - Sheriff Mark Lamb
Yuma County, AZ - Sheriff Leon Wilmot
Greenlee County, AZ – Sheriff Tim Sumner
Pima County, AZ – Sheriff Mark Napier
Kern County, CA - Sheriff Donny Youngblood
Mohave County, CA - Sheriff Bill Risen
La Paz County, CA - Sheriff Bill Risen
Mohave County, CA - Sheriff Doug Shuster
Yuma County, AZ - Sheriff Leon Wilmot
Greenlee County, AZ – Sheriff Tim Sumner
Pima County, AZ – Sheriff Mark Napier
Kern County, CA - Sheriff Donny Youngblood
Modoc County, CO - Sheriff Mike Poindexter
Nevada County, CO - Sheriff Keith Royal
Siskiyou County, CA - Sheriff John E. Lopey
Custer County, CO - Sheriff Shannon K. Byerly
Delta County, CO - Sheriff Fred McKee
Garfield County, CO - Sheriff Lou Vallario
Hinsdale County, CO - Sheriff Ron Bruce
Gilpin County, CO – Sheriff Bruce Hartman
Larimer County, CO – Sheriff Justin Smith
Banks County, GA - Sheriff Carlton Speed
Dade County, GA - Sheriff Ray Cross
Hart County, GA - Sheriff Mike Cleveland
Stephens County, GA - Sheriff Randy Shirley
Thomas County- Sheriff R. Carlton Powell
Twiggs County, GA - Sheriff Darren Mitchum
Union County, GA - Sheriff Mack Mason
White County, GA - Sheriff Neal Walden
Benewah County, ID- Sheriff Dave Resser
Kootenai County, ID- Sheriff Ben Wolfinger
Nez Perce County, ID - Sheriff Joe Rodriguez
Bannock County, ID – Sheriff Lorin Nielsen
Brown County, IL - Sheriff Karl H. Groesch
DeKalb County, IL- Sheriff Roger Scott
Ford County, IL- Sheriff Mark R. Doran
Kane County, IL- Sheriff Don Kramer
Knox County, IL- Sheriff Dave Clague
McHenry County, IL- Sheriff Bill Prim
Mclean County, IL- Sheriff Jon Sandage
Marshall County, IL- Sheriff Rob Russell
Mercer County, IL- Sheriff David Staley
Ogle County, IL- Sheriff Brian E. VanVickle
Perry County, IL- Sheriff Steve E. Bareis
Piatt County, IL- Sheriff David Hunt
St. Clair County, IL- Sheriff Richard Watson
Stephenson County, IL- Sheriff David Snyders
Toulon, IL- Sheriff Steven Sloan
Floyd County, IN- Sheriff Frank Loop
Hancock County, IN- Sheriff Michael Shepherd
Jasper County, IN- Sheriff Terry J. Risner
Lawrence County, IN- Sheriff Mike Branham
Marshall County, IN- Sheriff Matthew Hassel
Montgomery County, IN- Sheriff Mark Casteel
Owen County, IN- Sheriff Leonard Hobbs
Warrick County, IN- Sheriff Brett Kruse
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Adel County, IA- Sheriff Chad W. Leonard
Cerro Gordo, IA- Sheriff Kevin Pais
Clay County, IA- Sheriff Chris Raveling
Iowa County, IA- Sheriff Robert A. Rotter
Mills County, IA- Sheriff Eugene Goos
Palo Alto County, IA- Sheriff Lynn J. Schultes
Plymouth County, IA- Mike VanOtterloo
Sioux County, IA- Sheriff Dan Altena
Barton County, KS- Sheriff Brian J. Bellendir
Jackson County, KS- Sheriff Tim Morse
Kearny County, KS- Sheriff David G. Horner
Franklin County, KS-Sheriff Jeffrey O. Richards
Wyandotte County, KS- Sheriff Donald Ash
Grayson County, KY- Sheriff Norman Chaffins
Jefferson County, KY- Sheriff John Aubrey
Kenton County, KY- Sheriff Pat Morgan
Daviess County, KY – Sheriff Keith Cain
Fulton County, KY – Sheriff Robby Woods
Bossier County, LA- Sheriff Julian C. Whittington
Ouachita Parish, LA- Sheriff Jay Russell
Iberia Parish, LA- Sheriff Louis Ackel
Washington Paris, LA – Sheriff Randy Seal
St. Charles Paris, LA – Sheriff Greg Champagne
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Alger County, MI- Sheriff Todd Brock
Baraga County, MI- Sheriff Richard H. Johnson
Bay County, MI- Sheriff Troy R. Cunningham
Berrien County, MI- Sheriff I. Paul Bailey
Branch County, MI- Sheriff C. John Pollack
Charlevoix County, MI- Sheriff Charles Vondra
Chippewa County, MI - Sheriff Michael D. Bitnar
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Burnett County, WI - Sheriff Ronald Wilhelm
Washington County, WI - Sheriff Dale K. Schmidt
Waupaca County, WI - Sheriff Bradley A. Hardel
Waukesha County, WI – Sheriff Eric Severson
Laramie County, WY – Sheriff Danny Glick
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