



State Representative
Jeff Leach
Dist. 67
Rotunda Report

June 18, 2014

Friends,

Over the course of the last several months, our southern border in the Rio Grande Valley has seen an unprecedented wave of over 35,000 illegal crossings each month, bringing with it a dangerous influx of illegal drugs, violence and infectious disease. Furthermore, over 47,000 of recent apprehensions in the U.S. have been of undocumented minors, most of whom are unaccompanied, leaving vulnerable children in unsafe conditions and diverting attention and resources aimed at protecting our porous border.

Over the past several days I have been in direct contact with our border patrol agents and with local law enforcement officials in the Rio Grande Valley, as well as many of my Texas House colleagues from across the State, in an effort to gather accurate information and better understand the problematic situation and potential solutions. While Texas Department of Public Safety (DPS) Border Patrol Agents are working tirelessly to control the situation, it has become increasingly evident that they lack the adequate resources needed to handle this unprecedented surge. Since the Obama Administration has made it abundantly clear that they have no intention of providing sufficient federal resources to secure our border, it is time to take matters into our own hands.

In the paramount interest of the safety, health and security of Texans, we must act swiftly to secure the border once and for all. In that regard, I respectfully call on Governor Perry, Lieutenant Governor Dewhurst and Speaker Straus to take any and all necessary measures to allocate emergency state funding to the DPS and local law enforcement agencies working to secure the border. For the safety of our border patrol agents, Texas families, innocent children and state sovereignty, we cannot wait any longer.

All my Best,

Jeff Leach

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