

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

January 26, 2024

The Honorable Kathy Hochul
Governor of New York State
New York State Capitol Building
Albany, NY 12224

Dear Governor Hochul,

As someone who has described the invasion at our Southern Border as a “crisis” and recently wrote¹ in a letter to Joe Biden that “states and cities cannot indefinitely respond to the subsequent strain on state and local resources” we were shocked when we did not see you join 25 of your fellow governors in supporting Texas Governor Greg Abbott’s efforts to secure the U.S. Southern Border. Instead, your recent budget proposal increased funding to support illegal immigrants while cutting funding for schools across the state².

Joe Biden and his failed Far Left policies have shattered the Constitutional covenant between the federal government and the states. He has turned every state into a border state and every community into a border community. There have been over 8 million illegal crossings since Joe Biden took office, with 242,418 illegals encountered in November of 2023 alone. The Southern Border has seen 312 encounters with people on the terrorist watch list, while encounters along the Swanton and Buffalo Sector of the Northern Border saw an astonishing 91,640 illegal encounters last year. More recently on December 29, 2023, an Iranian national with links to terrorism attempted to illegally enter into New York via the port of entry in Niagara Falls³.

As an all-time high⁴ number of illegal immigrants cross our borders and bleed into New York, your refusal to reverse course has created an unsustainable environment that has taken a financial and humanitarian toll on the state. New York students have been kicked out of their schools and forced into remote learning while migrants occupy their classrooms⁵, Army veterans are being evicted from their homes to make room for illegal immigrants⁶, a sprawling tent city has materialized⁷, and earlier this week, a 3-month-old girl was found dead in a migrant shelter⁸.

¹ <https://www.governor.ny.gov/news/governor-hochul-leads-nine-governor-coalition-call-federal-action-immigration#:~:text=In%20a%20letter%20to%20the,comprehensive%20border%20security%20legislative%20package.>

² <https://gothamist.com/news/profoundly-disappointed-hundreds-of-ny-schools-could-get-less-state-money-in-new-budget>

³ <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/iranian-national-with-terror-ties-caught-crossing-us-northern-border-illegally>

⁴ <https://abcnews.go.com/Politics/migrant-encounters-reach-time-high-southwest-border/story?id=106050779>

⁵ <https://www.foxnews.com/politics/nyc-high-school-students-forced-into-remote-learning-as-2000-migrants-sheltered-in-school-instead>

⁶ <https://www.foxnews.com/media/crisis-new-york-94-year-old-vet-struggles-move-nursing-home-evicts-replaced-migrants>

⁷ <https://apnews.com/article/immigration-migrants-shelter-new-york-tents-dd45276daa05992e2e7420fe37c7c288>

⁸ <https://nypost.com/2024/01/22/metro/3-month-old-girl-found-dead-inside-nyc-migrant-shelter-cops/>

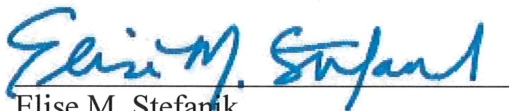
New York City has already opened 200 emergency shelters, spent close to \$2 billion to date, and plans to spend around \$12 billion through the summer of 2025⁹, just to deal with the crisis you and other Far Left state politicians invited when deciding to implement “sanctuary city” policies.

Given the influx of illegal immigrants to New York, we call on you to take efforts to secure the Northern Border, and support Texas Governor Greg Abbott in his efforts to do the same for our Southern Border. With Joe Biden and Alejandro Mayorkas refusing to act, it is past time for our Governors to take decisive action to protect their citizens and our country.

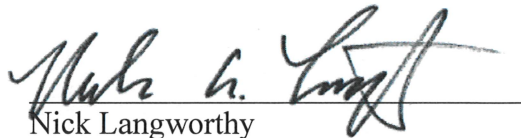
Given the urgency and importance of this situation, we request your response on the following questions by February 5th, 2024:

1. Do you believe a Governor has the right and more importantly, the duty to protect their citizens from harm?
2. Do you believe a state has the right to self-defense, under Article 4, Section 4 and Article 1, Section 10, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution?
3. What actions are you currently taking to secure the Northern Border of New York from illegal immigration?
4. Will you commit to supporting Texas Governor Greg Abbott in his efforts to protect Americans and secure our borders?

Sincerely,



Elise M. Stefanik
Member of Congress



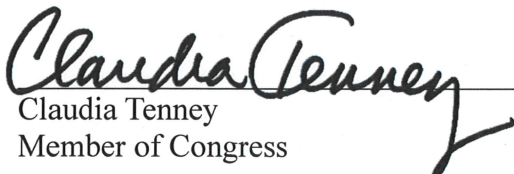
Nick Langworthy
Member of Congress



Nicole Malliotakis
Member of Congress



Brandon Williams
Member of Congress



Claudia Tenney
Member of Congress



Nick LaLota
Member of Congress

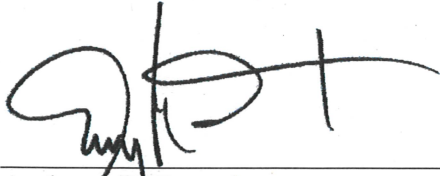
⁹ <https://www.nyc.gov/content/getstufdone/pages/asylum-seeker-update>



Marc Molinaro
Member of Congress



Michael V. Lawler
Member of Congress



Anthony D. Esposito
Member of Congress
