

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-2308

February 20, 2024

Governor Tim Walz
130 State Capitol
75 Rev Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr. Blvd.
St. Paul, MN 55155

Dear Governor Walz:

We are writing to you to express our deep concerns over S.F. 2724, the North STAR Act, which was recently introduced in the state legislature. As you are aware, this misguided legislation would prohibit state and local institutions from working with the United States Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), the United States Department of Homeland Security (DHS), the United States Marshals Service, the United States Customs and Border Patrol (CBP), and any other immigration enforcement agency.

This legislation, which does nothing to help the citizens of Minnesota and is devoid of common sense, ignores the ongoing crisis at our southern border that is plaguing our nation. It will encourage more illegal immigration, which has already reached record highs under the Biden Administration.¹²³

Some of us recently traveled to Cochise County, Arizona, to see this crisis firsthand and hear from those most directly impacted. After listening to law enforcement at the border, local elected officials, and local farmers, it is clear Minnesota cannot afford to aid and abet the invasion at our southern border.

The border patrol agents we spoke with highlighted the effectiveness of Trump-era immigration policies, like Remain in Mexico, and detailed how President Biden's elimination of former President Trump's policies not only caused this spike in illegal immigration but also put the safety of the communities they swore to protect at risk. Most notably, the local sheriff remarked that this crisis is not a migrant crisis but rather an organized crime crisis. Each illegal immigrant pays the cartel anywhere from \$8,000-\$10,000 to cross the border. Once in the United States, they are required to pay the cartels a large percentage of their income in perpetuity.⁴ Legislation

¹ [Nationwide Encounters | U.S. Customs and Border Protection](#)

² [Southwest Land Border Encounters | U.S. Customs and Border Protection](#)

³ [Biden admin may have lost track of millions of migrants crossing southern border: congressional report](#)

⁴ [House Natural Resources Committee Federal Lands Subcommittee Hearing: Biden's Border Crisis: The Consequences of Failing to Secure Federal Border Lands Testimony Jim Chilton](#)

like the North STAR Act would bring contemporary indentured servitude to our backyard while enriching the cartels. Furthermore, prevalent cartel crimes, predominantly human and drug smuggling, are already putting countless Minnesotans in danger. This would get far worse should Minnesota become a “Sanctuary State.”

The North STAR Act would bring human trafficking to our front door. The Biden Administration has already lost over 85,000 unaccompanied minors who have entered the United States.⁵ “Sanctuary” status would make Minnesota a safe haven for cartel smugglers who profit from the sale of these children. Minnesotans do not want their state to become the end destination for kidnapped children. However, we understand that your views may differ.

Moreover, the “Sanctuary City/State” experiment has proven to be an utter failure. These states and municipalities have become overrun with illegal immigrants and have used public schools, recreation centers, and parks to shelter these individuals.^{6,7,8,9,10} Now, residents in certain parts of the country are being asked to shelter illegal immigrants in their homes.¹¹ We would like to remind you of the terrorist recently caught in Minneapolis who entered our country illegally through the southern border.¹² Minnesotans do not need more crime and unknown terrorists in their towns and cities.

This experiment is also costly and dangerous; “Sanctuary” status costs taxpayers billions of dollars.¹³ Minnesota is already one of the highest-taxed states in the nation. We advise you against increasing the economic stress of the citizenry by gifting their hard-earned tax dollars to illegal immigrants. Furthermore, this crisis has already endangered Minnesotans. You may remember the 11-year-old sexually assaulted in Bemidji in a home with 11 illegal immigrants present this past fall.¹⁴ Taxpayer funds should be used to support Minnesotans, not criminals and cop-beaters.¹⁵

In closing, we strongly encourage you to reconsider your priorities. Your leadership has clearly signaled to Minnesotans that their needs are secondary to those who enter this country illegally.^{16,17} Still, it is not too late to stop President Biden’s border crisis from causing greater harm to our

⁵ [Chairman Green: We Must Address the “Tragedy and Trauma” Caused by the Biden-Mayorkas Border Crisis – Committee on Homeland Security](#)

⁶ [New York City turns to school gyms to house new migrants, prompting uproar](#)

⁷ [Parents outraged booted NYC students 'used' by City Hall in out-of-control migrant crisis](#)

⁸ [Chicago is keeping hundreds of migrants at airports while waiting on shelters and tents](#)

⁹ [Massachusetts turns recreational plex into shelter for homeless families, including migrants](#)

¹⁰ [Adams prepares to open migrant housing in Brooklyn park](#)

¹¹ [Massachusetts turns recreational plex into shelter for homeless families, including migrants](#)

¹² [Terrorist who crossed border allowed to roam US for nearly a year, arrested only after ICE 'became aware'](#)

¹³ [Shocking Cost of the Illegal Immigration Crisis to Americans](#)

¹⁴ ['Where's the outrage?': Family of 11-year-old Bemidji girl who was allegedly gang raped wants answers, action](#)

¹⁵ [Here's how a mob of illegal immigrants can maul cops in New York City and get away with it](#)

¹⁶ [Minnesota to provide free college tuition to undocumented students](#)

¹⁷ [Governor Walz Signs Bill Expanding Access to Driver's Licenses](#)

state. The North STAR Act would be an unmitigated disaster for Minnesotans. Please work for the betterment of our once great state and its citizens, not for President Biden's failed border policies.

Sincerely,



Pete Stauber
Member of Congress



Brad Finstad
Member of Congress



Michelle Fischbach
Member of Congress



Tom Emmer
Member of Congress

cc: Speaker Melissa Hortman
Majority Leader Erin Murphy