

February 6, 2024

The Honorable Joseph R. Biden
President of the United States
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20500

Dear Mr. President:

As representatives of the American people, we are compelled to write on their behalf to express concerns about your handling of the crisis at Texas' southern border. We strongly urge you to join Governor Greg Abbott's efforts to defend Texas from this foreign invasion, instead of standing against national sovereignty.

The strong leadership and urgency shown by Governor Abbott and the State of Texas draw a sharp contrast to your administration's weakness and apparent lack of desire to enforce our nation's immigration laws. Governor Abbott understands the scale of the crisis at the border and recognizes the need for strong intervention and adequate resources for the men and women enforcing our border laws.

By deploying the National Guard, Governor Abbott has taken the necessary steps to defend this country and her people from foreign invaders. To that end, we urge you to reconsider any inclination toward federalizing the National Guard in Texas. Any attempt to usurp command of the Texas National Guard using the authorities under the Insurrection Act of 1807 would be unconstitutional; the federal government's supremacy clause does not extend to preventing States from taking due measures to protect and defend themselves in the face of crisis.

Under the United States Constitution that we are each sworn to uphold, Governor Abbott has been granted the authority to maintain and deploy the National Guard for domestic emergencies on Texas soil. Federalizing Texas troops would be an encroachment on Texas' constitutionally protected sovereignty. We urge you to reconsider the policies that have created this crisis and, instead, to join Governor Abbott in protecting the American people from this invasion.

The nation and the world are watching. Thus far, you have opted to prioritize the onslaught of illegal migrants over the well-being of American citizens and the territorial integrity

of our nation. Mr. President, it is essential that you work with—not against—our nation’s governors as they struggle to pick up the slack that your failed policies have produced.

Sincerely,

RANDY K. WEBER
United States Representative