



OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

RICK PERRY
GOVERNOR

October 31, 2009

The Honorable Janet Napolitano
Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
108 Federal Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20502

Dear Secretary Napolitano:

I am writing to express my deepest concerns about reports that tomorrow, the U.S. Government plans to initiate the Alien Transfer and Exit Program (ATEP) through the City of Presidio and Southwest Texas.

Moving aliens apprehended in other western states into Texas and dropping them in a border community is unnecessarily burdensome and costly to taxpayers as there are numerous points of entry along the U.S.-Mexico border.

Turning the Presidio area into a way station for the repatriation of illegal immigrants adds responsibility to local authorities and holds the potential of increasing the strain on local and state infrastructure and resources.

This plan will increase the likelihood that these individuals will immediately cross back into Texas, which is already bearing an uneven burden in dealing with immigration and border security issues along the Texas-Mexico border.

Earlier this year, I wrote to you with concerns about the Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) Detention and Removal Operations (DRO) procedures that had resulted in illegal aliens from across America being brought to Texas and released here when the process to deport them stalled. Texans will not stand for federal programs burdening our state and communities with the nation's illegal immigrants.

Texas is proud of its working relationship with the United States Border Patrol, and we have invested significant state resources to assist them in their worthy efforts. We will continue to

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request that the federal government send the adequate resources necessary to effectively secure our southern border.

I feel this latest plan is another result of the federal government's continued lack of an effective strategy for dealing with border security.

I strongly urge you to stop this plan to bring illegal aliens from elsewhere in the country into Texas solely for the purpose of deportation.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Rick Perry". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Rick Perry
Governor

RP:mtk

cc: Texas Congressional Delegation