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September 24, 2024

The Honorable Xavier Becerra
Secretary, Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue, S.W.
Washington, D.C. 20201

Secretary Becerra,

In the last 4 years, an estimated 15,000 - 20,000 Haitian migrants have settled in Springfield, Ohio. With a population of 58,000 people, Haitian migrants now make up 30% or more of the city's population. As a result, the City of Springfield, and its healthcare system, have faced immense strain on their resources. Primary care providers are overwhelmed by the increase in Haitian patients, many of whom had little to no healthcare services prior arriving to United States. Many Haitian migrants have not been inoculated with the vaccines most Americans choose to receive, and language barriers impede providers ability to efficiently administer critical care. Recent national attention on the City of Springfield has sparked bomb threats targeting hospitals.

The mass migration of Haitian nationals to Springfield is the direct result of the Biden-Harris Administration's reckless and misguided promulgation of immigration policies like the Haitian Parole Program and the Temporary Protected Status (TPS) for Haitian Migrants. Under parole status, Haitian nationals can live and work legally in the United States for the duration of their assigned parole period. Programs like TPS then allow Haitian nationals to remain in the country indefinitely.

The Biden-Harris Administration created this problem. In April of this year, Congressman Mike Turner, who represents Springfield, brought the City of Springfield Mayor, City Manager, and Public Safety Manager to deliver a clear message to federal agencies: it is the Biden-Harris Administration's responsibility to provide assistance to the City of Springfield, its schools, healthcare centers, law enforcement, and social services agencies as they navigate this immigration crisis.

To that extent, we believe the Department of Health and Human Services must deliver funds to healthcare organizations in and around Springfield, Ohio. Programs like the Center for Disease

Control's Epidemiology and Laboratory Capacity Program exist to provide flexible dollars to health departments to detect, prevent and respond to infectious disease outbreaks.

As Ohio's representatives, we urge the Department of Health and Human Services to provide the City of Springfield and its relevant healthcare organizations with emergency funding. Please provide our offices, the City of Springfield, and Clark County Commissioners with a strategy to deliver emergency grant assistance to Springfield's law enforcement agencies.

The federal government created this crisis, and Springfield is entitled to a federal remedy. Action is required by your agency, and our offices stand ready to work with you on this critical matter.

Sincerely,



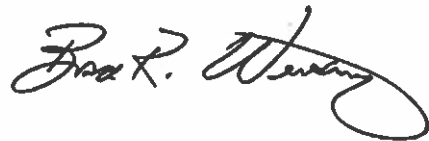
Congressman Michael R. Turner



Congressman Mike Carey



Congressman Michael A. Rulli



Congressman Brad R. Wenstrup



Congressman Warren Davidson



Congressman Robert E. Latta