Congress of the United States Washington, DC 20515

December 15, 2021

The Honorable Alejandro Mayorkas Secretary U.S. Department of Homeland Security Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Secretary Mayorkas,

Recent reports that virtually none of the 82,000 individuals flown from Afghanistan to the United States were properly vetted confirm our worst fears, your department has failed in its most basic responsibility to ensure that individuals allowed to enter the United States have been properly vetted. These recent reports contradict previous comments you made regarding the vetting of individuals being brought to the United States.

During your recent testimony before the Senate Judiciary Committee, you repeatedly dodged direct questions regarding the number of individuals who were "vetted before they got on the plane to come to America[.]" Your refusal to answer basic questions at that hearing, and your failure to answer our questions, is unacceptable and leads us to believe that individuals were not properly vetted before they were allowed to enter the United States.

On September 2, 2021, we sent you a letter asking basic questions regarding the vetting of the individuals allowed to enter the United States. To date, all we have received is an interim response stating that our "correspondence is very important to the [Department]" and that "the Department's leadership has accorded [our] letter a high priority." Despite these sentiments you have still not answered any of our questions.

Additionally, section 2503 of the continuing resolution enacted in September requires your department to submit to Congress a report containing information about Afghan evacuees.⁴ That report was due to Congress at the end of November. You have not delivered the report. You are either deliberately ignoring the law by failing to submit the required report or you are unable to provide the required information, neither of which is acceptable.

Please provide us answers to the questions we previously sent you, answers to the following new questions, and the required report, by December 17, 2021.

¹ Anna Guiaritelli, *Tens of thousands entered US unvetted after Kabul airlift, officials say in memo*, WASHINGTON EXAMINER, Nov. 24, 2021, https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/restoring-america/fairness-justice/immigration/tens-of-thousands-entered-us-unvetted-after-kabul-airlift-officials-say-in-memo.

² Oversight of the Department of Homeland Security, S. Comm. on the Judiciary, 117th Cong. (2021) (question from Sen. Lindsey Graham).

³ Letter from Alice Lugo, Assistant Sec'y for Legislative Affairs, to Hon. Andy Biggs (Sept. 7, 2021).

⁴ Extending Government Funding and Delivering Emergency Assistance Act, Pub. L. No. 117-43 (2021).

- 1. How many of the individuals granted parole were interviewed by a trained refugee officer prior to being granted parole?
- 2. How many individuals were denied parole based on information discovered during their interview?
- 3. There have been media reports of Afghan nationals who were brought to the United States committing crimes after their arrival. How many individuals have had their parole terminated? How many individuals have been removed from the country?

Sincerely,

Andy Biggs Member of Congress

Tom Tiffany Member of Congress

Scott Perry Member of Congress

Bill Posey Member of Congress

Matthew M. Rosendale, Sr. Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Marjorie Taylor Greene Member of Congress

Ted Budd

Member of Congress

Bob How

Bob Good Member of Congress

Laurer B. X

Lauren Boebert Member of Congress

Paul A. Gosar, D.D.S. Member of Congress W. Gregory Steube Member of Congress

Matt Gaetz Member of Congress

Member of Congress

Louie Gohmert

Randy K. Weber Member of Congress Chip Roy

Member of Congress

Ben Cline

Member of Congress