Congresswoman María E. Salazar 27th District of Florida



U.S. House of Representatives Washington, D.C. 20515

May 4, 2023

Alejandro Mayorkas Secretary of Homeland Security U.S. Department of Homeland Security 301 7th St, SW Washington, DC 20528

Dear Secretary Mayorkas,

We have a major problem. I just received a warning of biblical proportions from the President of Guatemala. Guatemala is at the breaking point after bearing endless waves of migrants rushing to our Southern Border after the irresponsible comments made by President Biden at the beginning of his presidency. They need serious help from you now.

<u>The Migration Crisis is out of Control:</u> Some countries in Central America have turned this into a smooth and profitable business where they just charge the migrants a fee and wave them on to Mexico and our Southern Border. Guatemala, rightly, is committed to a policy of no illegal immigration. Enforcing the law has been a terrible burden and the Guatemalans are now almost out of money and equipment trying to stop this historic flood of people. As soon as they send the people back to their neighbors, they come right back.

<u>Guatemala is Desperately Asking for Help:</u> Guatemala is a close ally of the United States and is in desperate need of help. They have repeatedly asked the Department of Homeland Security for the resources they need in order to shut down the tidal wave of migrants heading to our country. Guatemala is a critical chokepoint on the migrant journey north. If they cannot hold the line, our border is going to be overwhelmed imminently.

You Need to Give Guatemala Equipment and Resources NOW: Guatemala needs ground and aerial military-grade vehicles in order to shut down their border and protect ours. You have the power to make this decision -don't let any of the enemies of Guatemala in the Administration tell you No. This is essential to protect the United States from the onslaught that is coming.

Your Administration must recognize that we have hit crisis levels and start taking bold actions. Giving a critical partner of the United States like Guatemala the tools it needs is key to securing our border and ending this disaster now.

Sincerely

María Elvira Salazar Member of Congress

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