

United States Senate

WASHINGTON, DC 20510

May 16, 2019

The Honorable Kevin McAleenan
Acting Secretary
U.S. Department of Homeland Security
3801 Nebraska Avenue NW
Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Acting Secretary McAleenan:

An unprecedented flow of unlawful immigrants and asylum seekers is overwhelming our Customs and Border Protection workforce along our nation's southern border. Palm Beach County (FL) Sheriff Ric Bradshaw informs me that the Department of Homeland Security intends to transport approximately 500 migrants per month from El Paso, Texas to both Broward and Palm Beach Counties for release pending an asylum hearing.

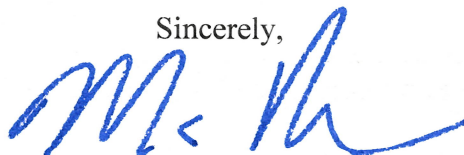
Please respond to the following questions prior to authorizing or scheduling any such movements:

1. Does the Department intend to transport migrants currently in custody at the southern border to states that do not share a land border with Mexico?
2. If so, why?
3. If so, does the Department intend to begin transporting migrants to communities in Florida and when?
4. If so, which counties/cities/towns?
5. How were these locations chosen?
6. How many migrants will be transported to Florida counties/cities/towns, and for how long does the Department plan to continue this?
7. Of the migrant population that will be transported to Florida, which countries will be represented?
8. Has the Department engaged with state and local government officials, as well as local organizations, to plan for those communities to receive such an influx of individuals?
9. If so, have the entities asked for additional resources to accommodate the migrants?

It is clear the current situation is untenable and the Department is faced with difficult choices given the lack of resources appropriated to secure our nation's southern border.

Thank you for your immediate attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Marco Rubio
U.S. Senator