

Date _____



Representative _____

Address: _____

Dear Representative,

In light of recent news detailing horrific conditions for children and families in Customs and Border Protection holding facilities, including the facilities in Clint, El Paso and the Rio Grande Valley, I am writing to urge you to take immediate action. Hundreds of children — even babies — have been reportedly held in U.S. Border Patrol facilities without a chance to bathe or change their clothes for weeks. There are reports of extreme cold, and inadequate food, sanitation and medical care. The U.S. government is defying international law.

There is a human rights crisis at our border, and now is an urgent time to act. I call on you to:

- Immediately launch an investigation into the treatment of migrants and asylum-seekers being held in these dangerous facilities:
 - Provide the public with a basic accounting of how many people are being held — including families and children — in what conditions, and for how long;
 - Determine the circumstances that led to the deaths of five children during or shortly following custody in border facilities; and
 - Understand how, DHS is improving its practices in these facilities.
- Urge relevant Committees (including Judiciary and Homeland Security) to hold oversight hearings on the conditions faced by migrants. Work with other Members of Congress to demand concrete answers from DHS officials about what they are doing to respond to the human rights crisis at the border.
- Pass legislation mandating that the government ensure minimum humanitarian standards and adequate independent oversight of these facilities, as well as robust alternatives.
 - Immediately act to codify basic standards of care for those in border custody.
 - Ensure that there is adequate independent monitoring of and access to these facilities, which are notoriously difficult for the public to access.
 - Consider alternatives that can provide better, more humane reception options for people seeking protection here.

Yours sincerely,

Signed _____

Name _____

Address _____