

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

July 8, 2015

The Honorable Barack Obama
The President
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue
Washington, D.C. 20500-0005

Dear Mr. President:

As members of the United States Congress who have taken an oath to support and defend the Constitution, we write to express our strong objection to the negotiations by the Administration in an attempt to normalize relations with Cuba.

These recent policy changes threaten the safety and well-being of the American people. Specifically, Cuba has and continues to refuse the acceptance and re-entry of Cuban illegal aliens who commit crimes in the United States. These criminals are not naturalized citizens and currently have no legal status in the United States, as they have been issued a final order of removal. In fiscal year 2012 the Enforcement and Removal Operations division of the Department of Homeland Security tracked 21,096 Cuban criminal aliens residing in the United States. These individuals are listed as “ICE Threat Level 1” – the highest threat level within Immigration and Customs Enforcement – meaning these illegal aliens are among the most dangerous and hardened criminals, convicted of an “aggravated felony,” or two or more felonies.

In 2001, the United States Supreme Court held that after serving their prison sentence, these criminals cannot be held indefinitely in administrative custody. This is especially troubling, as these criminals, who have been convicted of felonies are free to roam the streets of the United States. As a direct result of the Castro regime’s blatant disregard for the rule of law and refusal to accept re-entry of these criminals, they’re free to live amongst our general public. It should be noted, while we understand the effects of the Cuban Adjustment Act, and support this law, we believe these most dangerous criminals should face deportation as they have no legal status.

By failing to negotiate the removal of these dangerous criminals – our Country continues to face threats from those who should have been returned to Cuba. Further, it is unacceptable to remove Cuba from the list of State Sponsors of Terrorism without ensuring these dangerous individuals are rightfully deported. We are deeply concerned and troubled by the Administrations’ actions of welcoming Cuba to the Summit of the Americas, easing travel restrictions between the two nations, increasing the amount of permissible remittances, and expanding commercial exports to

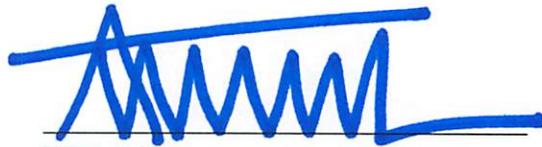
Cuba – these actions unilaterally benefit the Castro regime and in turn jeopardize the safety and security of Americans.

These negotiations put political agenda above the safety and security of the American public. We stand committed to see that more is done to return these dangerous criminals to Cuba and to work with the Administration in protecting these United States. Please find attached our questions regarding this matter and we respectfully ask for a response by July 31, 2015.

Sincerely,



DIANE BLACK
Member of Congress



TED POE
Member of Congress



LAMAR S. SMITH
Member of Congress



PHIL ROE, M.D.
Member of Congress



MARSHA BLACKBURN
Member of Congress



SCOTT DESJARLAIS, M.D.
Member of Congress



LOUIE GOHMERT
Member of Congress



MARK MEADOWS
Member of Congress



JODY HICE
Member of Congress



MATT SALMON
Member of Congress



STEPHEN FINCHER
Member of Congress



BOB GIBBS
Member of Congress



CHUCK FLEISCHMANN
Member of Congress



ANDY HARRIS
Member of Congress



JOHN FLEMING, M.D.
Member of Congress



MO BROOKS
Member of Congress



CURT CLAWSON
Member of Congress



TRENT FRANKS
Member of Congress



LOU BARLETTA
Member of Congress

Paul A. Gosar

PAUL GOSAR

Member of Congress

Definitions

- 1) Administration – means the Obama Administration and or any Executive Agency, including but not limited to the Department of Homeland Security.
- 2) Illegal Alien Criminals – means any criminal(s) tracked by the Enforcement and Removal Operations division within the Department of Homeland Security and who has been issued a final order of removal.
- 3) Policy – means any statement(s) of principle that guide decision-making.
- 4) Procedures – means a more detailed instruction(s) about how policies should be carried out.

Questions

- 1) Did the Administration negotiate with Cuba regarding the acceptance and re-entry of Cuban illegal alien criminals?
- 2) What policy and procedures has the Administration made in negotiating the deportation of Cuban illegal alien criminals?
- 3) What policy changes has the Administration made towards any country that refuses to accept the United States' deportation of illegal alien criminals?
- 4) Is the Administration working with other governmental agencies to resolve the thousands of illegal alien criminals who cannot be deported?
- 5) What policy and procedures has the Administration made to resolve the thousands of illegal alien criminals who cannot be deported?