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Senator Bryan W. Simonaire
District 31

Senator Christopher West
District 42

January 29, 2024

The Honorable Wes Moore
Governor of Maryland
90 State Circle
Annapolis, MD 21401

Governor Moore:

We are deeply concerned about the crisis unfolding on the Southern border of the United States, particularly in the state of Texas. The impacts of nearly unchecked, unprecedented levels of illegal immigration are not just harmful to the citizens of Texas. They also are fueling drug and human trafficking that is devastating our communities across the state of Maryland.

We are writing to ask you to join the governors of 25 states standing with Texas and their right to self-defense from the devastating impacts of illegal immigration on their border.

Tens of thousands of people are crossing the border illegally each month with no documentation on where they are from, who they are, or their intentions to come to the United States. While we all are concerned about the humanitarian crisis that befalls many in desperate situations, we also know that there are dangerous people taking advantage to gain access to our country undetected. Furthermore, deadly drugs like Fentanyl, which kill and destroy the families of Marylanders every day, are crossing the border in unprecedented amounts. In FY2023, over 26,000 pounds of fentanyl were seized at the southern border, more than enough to kill each Marylander.

The Senate Republican Caucus stands firmly with the State of Texas and their right to defend themselves under Article 4, Section 4 and Article 1, Section 1, Clause 3 of the U.S. Constitution. Because the Biden Administration has forgone its Constitutional compact duties to the states, Texas has every legal justification needed to protect and defend the citizens of their state and our country.

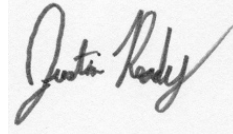
We sincerely hope you will join us in asserting that Maryland stands firmly with Texas' right to defend itself and, by extension, protect our communities as well while we wait anxiously for the federal government to do its duty.

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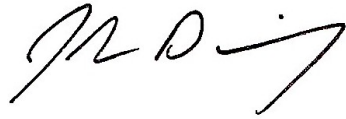
Sincerely,



Senate Minority Leader Steve Hershey



Senate Minority Whip Justin Ready



Senator Jack Bailey



Senator Mary Beth Carozza




Senator Paul Corderman



Senator William Folden



Senator Jason Gallion



Senator J.B. Jennings



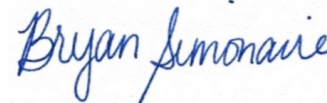
Senator Johnny Mautz



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