



Forward Latino is a non-profit, non-partisan advocacy and service organization dedicated to assisting Latinos pursuing the American Dream.

June 24, 2021

Arizona

California

Colorado

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Illinois

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Iowa

Maryland

Massachusetts

Michigan

Minnesota

Mississippi

Montana

Nebraska

Nevada

New Mexico

New Jersey

New York

North Carolina

Ohio

Oklahoma

Oregon

Pennsylvania

Texas

Virginia

Washington

West Virginia

Wisconsin

The Honorable Kim Reynolds
Governor
State of Iowa
1007 E. Grand Avenue
Des Moines, IA 50319

Dear Governor Reynolds:

Thank you for your service to the residents of Iowa. As a non-profit, non-partisan service and advocacy organization with members throughout Iowa, I write to you regarding your recent decision to send the Iowa National Guard and now the Iowa State Patrol to Texas and Arizona.

After your decision became public, I began to receive calls from our members, affiliates, and other people of faith from across the state sharing not only their concerns for your decision, but the negative ramifications it will undoubtedly have the residents of Iowa.

As you may be aware, the Iowa National Guard and State Patrol are neither trained or equipped for their mission, nor do they have the statutory authority to assist in any meaningful way. As such they will be separated from their families, consuming precious taxpayer dollars while attempting to complete a mission which cannot be achieved. Their presence will have little to no impact on border security. The decision however will almost certainly hurt the people of Iowa.

Across the country where we have seen such actions taken and rhetoric used, we have seen exponential growth in hate crimes, mainly against United States Citizens. From El Paso, Texas where the mass shooter confessed to "hunting Mexicans," he succeeded in killing a mother and father with the same bullet, as they lay on the floor of the Wal-Mart, shielding their newborn infant. We saw a United States Citizen in Milwaukee, Wisconsin have acid thrown in his face after being ordered out of the country. And right here in Iowa, we saw a woman run over 14-year-old girl walking to school. The Iowa driver later confessed to intentionally running over the girl because she was "Mexican." The young girl is a United States Citizen.

When I met with members of your staff earlier this year to discuss your refusal to accept Christian immigrant children fleeing violence, we were told there were simply no state resources available to provide a safe place for these young children. Now we see resources being spent on a mission that once again has no chance to have any measurable impact on border security. We can and must do better.

It is for these reasons and more that I ask you to reconsider your decision and to take real steps to address the very real problems plaguing our immigration system. I would ask that you begin by encouraging members of the Iowa Congressional delegation to pass immigration reform that provides for our nation's security and economy while also supporting our nation's proud history of being the defenders of liberty and human dignity.

I welcome the opportunity to meet with you in person to discuss the real actions that can and must be taken to address the many issues that plague our broken immigration system. It is time for not just headlines, but results.

I can be reached at (833)LAT-INO1 or via email at dmorin@forwardlatino.org.

In service to the Lord,

Darryl D. Morin
National President