

[Date]

The Honorable Senator John McCain  
218 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator McCain:

As your constituent, I urge you to protect funding for refugee protection internationally and refugee resettlement in the United States. Over   
sixty-five million people are displaced globally, including over 22 million refugees, the largest number in recorded history. As Congress works on federal spending bills for Fiscal Year 2018, it is critical that the United States demonstrate leadership by extending international humanitarian assistance and ensuring that refugees resettled in the United States receive the welcome they need to thrive in their new communities. I also urge you to support resettling at least 75,000 refugees in fiscal year 2018.

Refugees are of special humanitarian concern to the United States and are a testament to our nation’s long, proud history as a beacon of hope. To be admitted to the United States, refugees must demonstrate that they have a well-founded fear of persecution because of their race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group, and must undergo rigorous security screenings, including biometric checks and interviews with specialized and well-trained Department of Homeland Security officers. The U.S. Refugee Admissions Program is a private/public partnership that is integral to U.S. foreign policy and national security.

Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest helps refugees who have been resettled in Arizona by providing them with the tools of self-reliance: housing, job placement and employment skills, English-language classes, and community orientation. Refugees are resilient, hard workers whose innovative skills have contributed greatly to our state. Our offices in Phoenix and Tucson have helped resettle 1,300 refugees in the past year alone. Since we started in 1975, over 20,000 refugees have embarked on a path to reach their full potential and enjoy safety, security, and a second chance in life.

I urge you to stand with our community as we welcome refugees by increasing funds for the following accounts:

* Labor / Health and Human Services: Refugee and Entrant Assistance: $1.693 billion to ensure local communities have the resources to help refugees integrate and thrive as they rebuild their lives.
* State Department / Foreign Operations: Migration and Refugee Assistance: $3.6 billion to assist refugees abroad, and process and provide initial integration assistance to refugees resettled in the U.S.
* International Disaster Assistance: $3.8 billion to respond to the growing numbers of persons internally displaced.
* Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance: $50 million to enhance the United States' ability to respond quickly and effectively to unanticipated crises, such as those in and around Syria, South Sudan, and other emerging crises.

Refugees are a testament to the United States’ long, proud history as a sanctuary for those who seek lives free from violence and oppression. I call on you to support resettling at least 75,000 refugees in fiscal year 2018; protect refugee assistance and resettlement; and reduce funding for detention, deportation, and border militarization. My community welcomes refugees and immigrants, and I invite you to meet with refugees next time you are in your home office. Thank you for your public service, and please contact me if you have any questions.

With Appreciation,



[Date]

The Honorable Senator Jeff Flake  
413 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, DC 20510

Dear Senator Flake:

As your constituent, I urge you to protect funding for refugee protection internationally and refugee resettlement in the United States. Over   
sixty-five million people are displaced globally, including over 22 million refugees, the largest number in recorded history. As Congress works on federal spending bills for Fiscal Year 2018, it is critical that the United States demonstrate leadership by extending international humanitarian assistance and ensuring that refugees resettled in the United States receive the welcome they need to thrive in their new communities. I also urge you to support resettling at least 75,000 refugees in fiscal year 2018.

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[Date]

The Honorable Representative Tom O’Halleran  
126 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative O’Halleran:

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sixty-five million people are displaced globally, including over 22 million refugees, the largest number in recorded history. As Congress works on federal spending bills for Fiscal Year 2018, it is critical that the United States demonstrate leadership by extending international humanitarian assistance and ensuring that refugees resettled in the United States receive the welcome they need to thrive in their new communities. I also urge you to support resettling at least 75,000 refugees in fiscal year 2018.

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[Date]

The Honorable Representative Martha McSally  
510 Cannon House Office Building  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative McSally:

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sixty-five million people are displaced globally, including over 22 million refugees, the largest number in recorded history. As Congress works on federal spending bills for Fiscal Year 2018, it is critical that the United States demonstrate leadership by extending international humanitarian assistance and ensuring that refugees resettled in the United States receive the welcome they need to thrive in their new communities. I also urge you to support resettling at least 75,000 refugees in fiscal year 2018.

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With Appreciation,



[Date]

The Honorable Representative Raul Grijalva  
1511 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Grijalva:

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sixty-five million people are displaced globally, including over 22 million refugees, the largest number in recorded history. As Congress works on federal spending bills for Fiscal Year 2018, it is critical that the United States demonstrate leadership by extending international humanitarian assistance and ensuring that refugees resettled in the United States receive the welcome they need to thrive in their new communities. I also urge you to support resettling at least 75,000 refugees in fiscal year 2018.

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The Honorable Representative Paul Gosar  
2057 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Gosar:

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With Appreciation,



[Date]

The Honorable Representative Andy Biggs  
1626 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Biggs:

As your constituent, I urge you to protect funding for refugee protection internationally and refugee resettlement in the United States. Over   
sixty-five million people are displaced globally, including over 22 million refugees, the largest number in recorded history. As Congress works on federal spending bills for Fiscal Year 2018, it is critical that the United States demonstrate leadership by extending international humanitarian assistance and ensuring that refugees resettled in the United States receive the welcome they need to thrive in their new communities. I also urge you to support resettling at least 75,000 refugees in fiscal year 2018.

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[Date]

The Honorable Representative David Schweikert  
2059 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Representative Schweikert:

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The Honorable Representative Ruben Gallego  
218 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

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The Honorable Representative Trent Franks  
2435 Rayburn HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

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The Honorable Representative Kyrsten Sinema  
1725 Longworth HOB  
Washington, DC 20515

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sixty-five million people are displaced globally, including over 22 million refugees, the largest number in recorded history. As Congress works on federal spending bills for Fiscal Year 2018, it is critical that the United States demonstrate leadership by extending international humanitarian assistance and ensuring that refugees resettled in the United States receive the welcome they need to thrive in their new communities. I also urge you to support resettling at least 75,000 refugees in fiscal year 2018.

Refugees are of special humanitarian concern to the United States and are a testament to our nation’s long, proud history as a beacon of hope. To be admitted to the United States, refugees must demonstrate that they have a well-founded fear of persecution because of their race, religion, nationality, political opinion, or membership in a particular social group, and must undergo rigorous security screenings, including biometric checks and interviews with specialized and well-trained Department of Homeland Security officers. The U.S. Refugee Admissions Program is a private/public partnership that is integral to U.S. foreign policy and national security.

Lutheran Social Services of the Southwest helps refugees who have been resettled in Arizona by providing them with the tools of self-reliance: housing, job placement and employment skills, English-language classes, and community orientation. Refugees are resilient, hard workers whose innovative skills have contributed greatly to our state. Our offices in Phoenix and Tucson have helped resettle 1,300 refugees in the past year alone. Since we started in 1975, over 20,000 refugees have embarked on a path to reach their full potential and enjoy safety, security, and a second chance in life.

I urge you to stand with our community as we welcome refugees by increasing funds for the following accounts:

* Labor / Health and Human Services: Refugee and Entrant Assistance: $1.693 billion to ensure local communities have the resources to help refugees integrate and thrive as they rebuild their lives.
* State Department / Foreign Operations: Migration and Refugee Assistance: $3.6 billion to assist refugees abroad, and process and provide initial integration assistance to refugees resettled in the U.S.
* International Disaster Assistance: $3.8 billion to respond to the growing numbers of persons internally displaced.
* Emergency Refugee and Migration Assistance: $50 million to enhance the United States' ability to respond quickly and effectively to unanticipated crises, such as those in and around Syria, South Sudan, and other emerging crises.

Refugees are a testament to the United States’ long, proud history as a sanctuary for those who seek lives free from violence and oppression. I call on you to support resettling at least 75,000 refugees in fiscal year 2018; protect refugee assistance and resettlement; and reduce funding for detention, deportation, and border militarization. My community welcomes refugees and immigrants, and I invite you to meet with refugees next time you are in your home office. Thank you for your public service, and please contact me if you have any questions.

With Appreciation,