



**SOUTHERN
EVANGELICAL**
Seminary & Bible College

OFFICE of the PRESIDENT
Richard D. Land, D.Phil; D.D.

January 10, 2019

President Donald Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Ave. NW
Washington DC 20050

Dear Mr. President,

I am writing to you as an Evangelical Christian leader to let you know that many, many people in my faith community strongly support your efforts as our president to stem the deadly flow of addictive and poisonous drugs into our nation and to curtail the infiltration of dangerous gang members and violent criminals mixed in with those migrant caravans of people seeking relief from economic deprivation and civil or government violence in their countries of origin.

We believe your efforts are necessary to protect American citizens as well as those enticed by our open border to undertake an extremely dangerous journey during which appalling numbers of women and children are victimized by sexual and physical violence.

While we believe our government should act compassionately toward those seeking to enter our country, we fully support your effort to give our border patrol officials the means to control, not close, our southern border so that we as a nation have the final say as to who comes to live and work among us.

Many people of faith understand, as you do, that open borders and uncontrolled access to our nation is ultimately national suicide. Any country that does not control its borders will sooner, rather than later, become a different country. The irony, in fact, is that uncontrolled immigration will result in America becoming, sooner rather than later, more like the countries the immigrants are fleeing and less like the country they aspire to join. This has nothing to do with race or ethnicity. We are a country of immigrants made up of many ethnicities and nationalities, but our heritage and culture of freedom and individual liberty, protected and respected by our government, is endangered when large numbers of people who have no such experience come to our country uninvited. There is a limit to the number of people that can immigrate to our country in a short period of time without changing that



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culture. Perhaps the best illustration that this has nothing to do with ethnicity is the fact that we are very soon going to celebrate the birthday of Dr. Martin Luther King Jr., an African-American whose ancestors were brought here involuntarily as slaves, but who had drunk deeply from the well of our Judeo-Christian heritage and became one of the most eloquent spokesmen for the freedoms and belief in the innate, God-given dignity of all human beings expressed in our founding documents.

Mr. President, please know that we are praying for you as you seek to secure our southern border in pursuit of fulfilling your oath of office to protect and defend the American people.

We also appreciate the resources you are attempting to allocate to address the humanitarian needs of the children and adults caught in the tragic web of our failed and broken immigration system. As Christians, we stand ready to assist with resources and manpower to help meet these humanitarian needs.

Please know that there are millions of Americans of deep religious faith who are praying for you and your family every day. May God give you wisdom, courage, and compassion as you deal with the enormous duties of your office.

Sincerely yours,



Richard Land, D.Phil.
President



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