

March 6, 2019
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Dear Mr Vice President:

I am concerned about health care along the border. As recently noted there is a humanitarian crisis unfolding with thousands dying out in the desert and increasing numbers - including children - even in government care. There are many government employees along the border working variously for the border patrol, the military, the national guard and police departments but most are trained for situations ranging from wars to solving criminal cases and only about six percent have significant medical training. The political problems in Central America including the disaster in Venezuela have increased the number of children and people with health issues reaching the US and while you have attempted persuasion by threatening to cut aid much more needs to be done to address the kidnapping, sexual assault and simple travel injuries and assure safe passage to our border. We must also adjust the training, protocols and hiring for workers at our border to reflect the most serious threats: medical issues. More facilities and doctors must be made more available and health concerns must take precedence over enforcement.

Please assure me that you will shift your focus to the medical needs of those crossing the border.

I am very proud to be a US resident and a large part of that derives from our human rights record.

Sincerely,
Eric Babson