



IMMIGRATION UPDATE

June 23, 2014

From the desk of State Representative Jim Murphy



"Until the federal government fulfills its duty, it falls on the State of Texas to address those obligations."

- Governor Rick Perry, Lieutenant Governor David Dewhurst, and Speaker Joe Straus

The crisis along our border requires immediate attention. The good news here is that this is taking place. I want to keep you updated with accurate information. Below are key references from our heads of state.

Last Wednesday, Speaker Joe Straus, Lt. Governor David Dewhurst, and Governor Rick Perry ordered Colonel McCraw, Director of the Texas Department of Public Safety, "...you are directed to plan and execute a surge operation of increased law enforcement in Texas border counties." The direction to immediately execute an operation of increased law enforcement in Texas border counties is the first step in resolving the border crisis. To view the letter to DPS, [click here](#).

Speaker Joe Straus addressed the Members of the Texas House of Representatives with assurance that we plan to be prudent with taxpayers dollars while finding the best way to keep Texans safe. He directed the House committees on Appropriations and Homeland Security and Public Safety to keep a close eye on the cost and efficiency of this operation between now and our next session in January 2015. To view the letter from Speaker Straus, [click here](#).

A formal press release from Speaker Joe Straus, Lt. Governor David Dewhurst, and Governor Rick Perry describes the next steps for our state. To view the press release [click here](#).

It is important to note that we have been aggressive in funding border security. I proudly voted for the 2014-

2015 budget that provided a \$122 million increase (+55%), for border security. Because of our foresight, we can operate this initiative under our current budget. There is no need for a costly special session which would cost taxpayers at least \$1 million.

Funding border security is a critical matter that deserves the dramatic increase it received. The resources funded more officers, vehicles, and weapons along the border, as well as better technology, while demonstrating our commitment to the safety of our fellow Texans.

Thank you for your calls, emails, and letters. We have a crisis on our hands and the state of Texas is taking action. We will keep you informed of new developments and welcome your input.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jim".

Please contact our office with any questions or concerns. We want to hear your opinions.

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