



NEWS RELEASE

Arizona House of Representatives

Representative John Fillmore (R-16)

Representative Mark Finchem (R-11)

1700 West Washington • Phoenix, Arizona • 85007

Monday, March 22, 2021

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Representatives Fillmore & Finchem Call on Biden Administration to End Border Crisis, Protect Against Human & Drug Trafficking

STATE CAPITOL, PHOENIX – In a legislative proclamation read today on the House floor, State Representatives John Fillmore (R-16) and Mark Finchem (R-11) called on President Biden and his administration to respect, follow, and enforce all established United States immigration laws, to strengthen and secure our nation's borders, and prevent the illegal, immoral, and dangerous cross-border trafficking of people and drugs:

Whereas, The Biden Administration has reversed decades of immigration reform to reward those who violate our laws and sovereignty, and endangering the public health and safety of Americans and those who seek to immigrate here; and

Whereas, On his first day in office, President Biden signed a record 17 executive orders, many voiding common sense border protection policies enacted during the Trump administration; and President Biden issued an executive order ending former President Donald Trump's 2017 executive order on interior immigration enforcement putting American citizens at risk and potentially in harm's way; and

Whereas, President Biden has signed executive orders effectively affording sanctuary protection for aliens in our country; and President Biden issued an executive order preserving and fortifying DACA, providing legal status for people who came into the U.S. or stayed illegally; and will allow those coming in potentially to receive the same status; and

Whereas, President Biden issued an executive order to include the count of undocumented individuals in the U.S. Census thereby incorrectly inflating the true count of American citizens; and President Biden issued an executive order on child separation in immigration, creating a humanitarian crisis on its own; and

Whereas, President Biden and congressional Democrats are aggressively pushing a radical immigration overhaul that could set millions of illegal immigrants on a path to become U.S. citizens in just eight years or even less, in some cases; and

Whereas, United States Border agents encountered over 78,000 illegal immigrants in the first month of 2021, more than double over 2020, and higher than any January in a decade; and despite a worldwide pandemic, the Biden administration has left our borders unsecured and is allowing potentially-infected migrants into our state unchecked, nor tested for the COVID-19 virus; and

Whereas, The Biden administration has detained over 1,700 children, many in cages, at the U.S border, creating an unimaginable human and health crisis; and under the Biden administration, the number of unaccompanied, illegal, migrant children is expected to exceed 76,000 this year, the highest ever; and

Whereas, Arizona's border counties and communities are witness to the chaos and criminal activity caused by reduced border security; and Arizona's border counties and communities are overwhelmed and financially hurting from the permissive federal policies encouraging illegal immigration, and the unfettered smuggling of humans and narcotics; and

Whereas, America is a nation of laws, and Arizona citizens deserve better from their leaders in Washington; and

Therefore, Representative John Fillmore and Representative Mark Finchem, Republicans, invite all of the members of the Arizona House of Representatives to join us in calling upon President Biden and his administration to respect, follow, and enforce all established United States immigration laws, to strengthen and secure our nation's borders, and prevent the illegal, immoral, and dangerous cross-border trafficking of people and drugs.

A copy of the official proclamation is attached.

John Fillmore is a Republican member of the Arizona House of Representatives serving Legislative District 16, which includes East Mesa, Apache Junction, Gold Canyon, and North San Tan Valley.

Mark Finchem is a Republican member of the Arizona House of Representatives serving Legislative District 11, which includes portions of Pima and Pinal Counties.

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Legislative Proclamation



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ALL ESTABLISHED UNITED STATES IMMIGRATION LAWS, SECURE OUR NATION'S BORDERS,
AND PREVENT ILLEGAL AND DANGEROUS CROSS-BORDER TRAFFICKING OF PEOPLE AND DRUGS

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Signed this 22nd day of March 2021

Handwritten signature of John Fillmore in blue ink.

Representative John Fillmore
Legislative District 16

Handwritten signature of Mark Finchem in blue ink.

Representative Mark Finchem
Legislative District 11