



RICHARD ELÍAS
CHAIRMAN OF THE BOARD
COUNTY SUPERVISOR - DISTRICT 5

PIMA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS


130 WEST CONGRESS STREET, 11th FLOOR
TUCSON, ARIZONA 85701-1317

(520) 724-8126
district5@pima.gov
www.district5.pima.gov

MEMORANDUM

DATE: December 5, 2019

TO: Julie Castañeda, Clerk of the Board

FROM: Richard Elías, Chairman and District Five Supervisor 

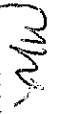
REGARDING: Item for the December 17, 2019 agenda addendum

Please add the following to the December 17, 2019 agenda addendum:

Resolution

A RESOLUTION OF THE PIMA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS IN OPPOSITION TO THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S MIGRANT PROTECTION PROTOCOLS IN WHICH ASYLUM-SEEKING FAMILIES ARE DIVERTED FROM THE TUCSON SECTOR OF U.S. BORDER PATROL TO JUAREZ, MEXICO VIA EL PASO, TEXAS (District 5).

Thank you

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RESOLUTION NO. ____

**A RESOLUTION OF THE PIMA COUNTY BOARD OF SUPERVISORS IN
OPPOSITION TO THE TRUMP ADMINISTRATION'S MIGRANT
PROTECTION PROTOCOLS UNDER WHICH ASYLUM-SEEKING FAMILIES
ARE DIVERTED FROM THE TUCSON SECTOR OF U.S. BORDER PATROL
TO JUAREZ, MEXICO VIA EL PASO, TEXAS**

WHEREAS, in the last five years more than 35,000 migrants, most of them asylum-seeking family members fleeing severe persecution and imminent danger in their home countries, have received assistance from non-profit, primarily religious, community organizations and local governments, and

WHEREAS, these local non-profits and governments have capacity to provide shelter and to continue to offer assistance to asylum-seeking families, and

WHEREAS, since the founding of the United States the people of this nation always have provided shelter and assistance to those fleeing grave dangers in their home countries due to their race, religion, nationality, social-group membership, or political beliefs, and

WHEREAS, the Trump administration in January implemented Migrant Protection Protocols in which federal authorities divert asylum-seeking families who apply in this country and force them to remain in Mexico pending legal proceedings, and

WHEREAS, on November 22 the Migrant Protection Protocols were expanded to include the Tucson Sector of the U.S. Border Patrol and asylum-seeking families presenting here are sent to Ciudad Juarez, Mexico, via El Paso, Texas, and

WHEREAS, living conditions for these asylum-seeking families in Ciudad Juarez are deplorably unsanitary and extremely dangerous as family members are victims of Mexican-gang kidnappings and subjected to violent crimes, including the sexual assaults of women and girls, and

WHEREAS, the Migrant Protection Protocols as applied in the Tucson Sector provide few exemptions from its transportation policy – allowing only pregnant women, women with a child under the age of 1, children traveling alone, or people with disabilities to avoid it, and

WHEREAS, the local efforts in Pima County to assist asylum-seeking families include safe shelter, nutritious food, medical attention, vaccinations, contact with relatives, and travel assistance, and

WHEREAS, the Migrant Protection Protocols are antithetical to the humane treatment of desperate asylum-seeking families who have been and can be provided safe havens in Pima County,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Pima County Board of Supervisors hereby calls for the Trump administration to rescind the Migrant Protection Protocols, and specifically as they relate to the Tucson Sector of the U.S. Border Patrol.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Pima County Board of Supervisors calls for the administration and the U.S. Congress to direct federal Department of Homeland Security agencies to resume direct contact with appropriate non-profits and local governments to address the needs of asylum-seeking families.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Pima County Board of Supervisors calls for the administration and the U.S. Congress to release to local non-profits and governments the humanitarian aid for asylum-seeking families that is in grant programs Congress already has approved.

Passed by the Board of Supervisors of Pima County, this ____ day of _____, 2019.

Richard Elías, Chairman
Pima County Board of Supervisors

ATTEST:

Julie Castañeda, Clerk of the Board

APPROVED AS TO FORM:



Andrew Flagg, Deputy County Attorney