

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

June 23, 2023

The Honorable Anthony Blinken
Secretary of State
U.S. Department of State
2201 C St NW
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Secretary Blinken,

With the COVID-19 pandemic behind us and summer upon us, Americans are again seeking to travel internationally. Over the past few months, our offices have seen a dramatic increase in requests for help from our constituents experiencing record delays in processing their passport applications.

Our offices serve the North Texas area and are sending hundreds of passport inquiries every week on behalf of constituents who submitted applications well within the Department of State's recommended timeframe. After our inquiries have been submitted to the Dallas Passport Agency, we have received nominal responses and updates regarding our constituents' needs. This deficit leaves our constituents largely without passports, even in cases of urgency.

I know that the employees at the State Department, the Dallas Passport Agency, and other passport agencies across the country are under enormous pressure to process these requests. Given that so many Americans are left without passports and are often unable to even contact someone at the passport agencies, we urge you to immediately reallocate your assets to address this critical situation. Our job – yours and ours – is to serve the American people and to ensure we deliver the basic services to which they are entitled.

Our goal must be to ensure all Americans, including our constituents living in North Texas, can freely travel abroad without the undue burden of excessive wait times and additional costs. With respect, we expect the State Department to immediately implement measures to help offices alleviate these wait times and better communicate with the people we all serve. We request an update on these implemented actions be provided to our offices without delay.

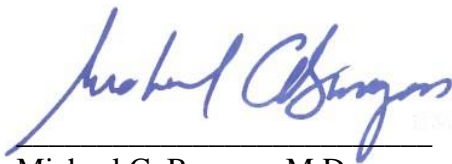
Sincerely,



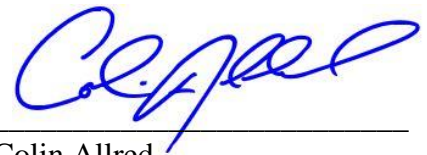
Kay Granger
Member of Congress



Marc Veasey
Member of Congress



Michael C. Burgess, M.D.
Member of Congress



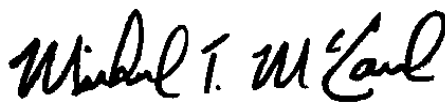
Colin Allred
Member of Congress



Roger Williams
Member of Congress



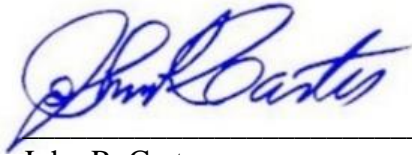
Jasmine Crockett
Member of Congress



Michael T. McCaul
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Pat Fallon
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John R. Carter
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Pete Sessions
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Ronny L. Jackson
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Nathaniel Moran
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