

United States Senate

COMMITTEES:
COMMERCE, SCIENCE, AND TRANSPORTATION
FINANCE
JUDICIARY
VETERANS' AFFAIRS

August 22, 2025

VIA ELECTRONIC TRANSMISSION

The Honorable Kristi Noem
Secretary
Department of Homeland Security
Washington, D.C. 20528

Dear Secretary Noem:

I write regarding the Trump administration's admirable efforts to address the devastating humanitarian crisis at our southern border created by the Biden administration's far-left policies. A key aspect of these efforts includes combatting the despicable practice of exploiting and trafficking migrant children. As part of the One Big Beautiful Bill, we have ensured a financial commitment to secure our border, deport criminal illegal aliens, and keep our communities safe.

As an essential component of that commitment, this landmark legislation provides critical resources to prevent child trafficking and child recycling—specifically allocating funds for “collecting fingerprints” and “collecting DNA” in accordance with the Immigration and Nationality Act.¹ Implementation of this critical provision will be a significant step forward in our fight to protect these innocent children—many of whom were trafficked into the United States during the Biden border crisis.

Under President Biden's watch, the southern border descended into a humanitarian crisis and hundreds of thousands of innocent migrant children went missing.² Migrants attempting to enter our country illegally often bring children with them under the guise of being that child's parent—solely for the purpose of gaining entry into the United States. Familial DNA testing and fingerprinting have served as proven, effective tools that Customs and Border Protection (CBP) can utilize to combat child trafficking, identify dangerous criminals, verify familial relationships, and protect these innocent children from exploitation. In addition to working diligently to secure our border and keep our nation safe, President Trump has long been a champion of using every tool at our disposal—including DNA testing and fingerprinting—to protect migrant children and verify familial relationships.

To that end, I urge you to utilize your discretion as Secretary of Homeland Security to ensure these migrant children are fully protected from harm and exploitation. The funds provided to you in the


¹ See Pub. L. No. 119-21, § 100051 (2025).

² Jennie Taer & Chris Nesi, *Trump Admin Launches Probe into Extremely Lax HHS Vetting for Migrant Kids That Left Thousands Vulnerable to Sex Trafficking and Exploitation*, NY POST (Feb. 21, 2025), <https://nypost.com/2025/02/21/us-news/trump-admin-launches-massive-probe-into-tens-of-thousands-of-migrant-kids-who-went-missing-under-biden/>.

One Big Beautiful Bill have given you the ability to do just that, and I urge you to use those funds to: (1) continue to utilize DNA verification technology—including rapid DNA testing³—to confirm familial relationships at the border; and (2) ensure that *all migrants* are fingerprinted upon seeking admission into the United States, including migrant children younger than 14 years of age. Both of these measures will go a long way towards protecting these innocent migrant children, many of whom have been trafficked and exploited for far too long.

Thank you for your attention to this matter and for all of your good work to secure our border and make our nation safer.

Sincerely,



Marsha Blackburn
United States Senator

³ Rapid DNA technology enables DHS to comply with the 2005 DNA Fingerprint Act, which requires DNA collection from individuals arrested or detained by federal authorities and ensures violent criminals with DNA profiles in national security databases will no longer walk freely into our country. *See* 34 U.S.C. § 40702.