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January 13, 2021

The Honorable Joseph Biden, Jr.
President-Elect
Office of the President-Elect
1401 Constitution Avenue, NW
Washington, D.C. 20230

Dear President-Elect Biden:

As you prepare a stimulus package to help the economy of our nation recover from the COVID-19 pandemic, I urge you to add $6 billion to the Federal Building Funds for upgrades to our land ports of entry (LPOE) infrastructure.

As you know from your role in leading the recovery in 2009, building infrastructure is a critical part of putting people back to work and reviving the economy. Upgrading the facilities at our LPOEs would not only bring good jobs to local communities and boost our country's economy, but it would also strengthen our national security and facilitate trade and travel.

Mexico and Canada are two of our three largest trading partners, and every day, hundreds of thousands of commercial trucks, passenger vehicles, and pedestrians cross our LPOEs on the northern and southern borders. Many of our LPOEs, however, have longstanding infrastructure needs that impede both security and commerce.

Funding for LPOEs in any upcoming stimulus package will be an important step in addressing your plans to direct federal resources to smart border enforcement efforts. Additionally, heavily investing in improving the aging infrastructure at our ports of entry is a necessary step for a safer and more prosperous America.

Sincerely,

Filemon Vela
Member of Congress

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