

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

December 6, 2018

The Honorable Nancy Pelosi
Minority Leader
H-204, U.S. Capitol
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Leader Pelosi:

We write to respectfully request that you exercise your leadership and take a strong stand against the funding of physical barriers along our southern border. We ask that you clearly advise Senate leadership that funding for physical barriers along the southern border is a nonstarter. Border communities—made up of people who will actually feel the harmful impact of such barriers—will not be deceived by simply calling funding for physical barriers “fencing” or “border security.”

Existing barriers along the southwest border have already caused massive environmental damage to border communities, causing increased flooding, threatening delicate ecosystems, and resulting in millions of dollars of devastation along the way. Including funding for a border wall in the Fiscal Year 2019 spending bill would exacerbate the economic and cultural damage to our community. These physical barriers would cut through historic landmarks, endanger wildlife currently protected by National Wildlife Refuges, and threaten innovation and economic development along the southern border.

Enough is enough. Please break the silence on “border security” funds and reject appropriations for physical barriers.

We look forward to your leadership on this important issue.

Sincerely,



Filemon Vela
Member of Congress



Vicente Gonzalez
Member of Congress