



House of Representatives
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
Harrisburg

November 17, 2015

Honorable Tom Wolf
Commonwealth of Pennsylvania
225 Main Capitol Building
Harrisburg, PA 17112

Dear Governor Wolf:

We were disturbed to learn that you will continue to welcome Syrian refugees into the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania. This decision places the welfare of individuals who live thousands of miles away above the welfare of the Pennsylvanians you were elected to serve.

In this announcement, you indicate that "Pennsylvania will continue working with the federal government to ensure that all individuals have gone through the proper screening process." Your reliance on federal security measures is disconcerting to say the least, given that FBI Director James Comey recently testified before Congress regarding the challenges in tracking potential terrorists within our borders. At an October 8 Senate Homeland Security Committee hearing, Director Comey indicated that there are gaps in the federal government's ability to screen Syrian refugees. "My concern," he said, "...is there are certain gaps...in the data available to us" from Syria. Director Comey echoed these warnings at an October 21 House Homeland Security Committee hearing.

Governors from at least 26 other states have announced that they will not accept Syrian refugees. Governor Greg Abbott of Texas sent a letter to President Obama yesterday indicating that the State of Texas "will not accept any refugees from Syria in the wake of the deadly terrorist attack in Paris." As we have heard, at least one of the terrorists implicated in the Paris attacks is suspected of posing as a refugee in order to gain admittance to France. Following the attacks, France has closed its borders and restricted travel. In contrast to these commonsense actions taken in an effort to protect individuals across our country and in Europe from further terrorist threats, you are taking steps to expose Pennsylvanians to additional risks.

In addition to the unknown dangers to which your policy exposes Pennsylvanians, the acceptance of additional refugees within Pennsylvania's border will impose costs on the taxpayers of Pennsylvania. According to

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Governor Wolf

Judicial Watch, the cost of accepting 10,000 Syrian refugees to the United States will be about \$650 million. The citizens of Pennsylvania should not have to bear the consequences of such a flawed national policy and your flawed state policy.

With great urgency, we ask you to follow the lead of your fellow governors who have taken strong and decisive action to protect their citizens and to reverse your decision to accept Syrian refugees within Pennsylvania borders.

For Liberty,

Daryl D. Metcalfe
State Representative

The following State Representatives are signatories to this letter:

Rep. William Adolph
Rep. Matthew Baker
Rep. Steve Barrar
Rep. Kerry Benninghoff
Rep. Stephen Bloom
Rep. Karen Boback
Rep. Rosemary Brown
Rep. Martin Causer
Rep. Lynda Schlegel Culver
Rep. Bryan Cutler
Rep. Russ Diamond
Rep. Gene DiGirolamo
Rep. George Dunbar
Rep. Cris Dush
Rep. Brian Ellis
Rep. Joe Emrick
Rep. Eli Evankovich
Rep. Garth Everett
Rep. Frank Farry
Rep. Mindy Fee
Rep. Matthew Gabler
Rep. Mark Gillen
Rep. Keith Gillespie
Rep. Keith Greiner
Rep. Seth Grove
Rep. Marcia Hahn
Rep. Julie Harhart
Rep. Adam Harris
Rep. Doyle Heffley
Rep. Sue Helm
Rep. Tim Hennessey
Rep. Dave Hickernell

Rep. Kristin Phillips-Hill
Rep. Rich Irvin
Rep. R. Lee James
Rep. Barry Jozwiak
Rep. Aaron Kaufer
Rep. Rob Kauffman
Rep. Fred Keller
Rep. Mark Keller
Rep. Tom Killion
Rep. Kate Klunk
Rep. Jerry Knowles
Rep. Tim Krieger
Rep. John Lawrence
Rep. Harry Lewis, Jr.
Rep. Ryan Mackenzie
Rep. Sandra Major
Rep. David Maloney
Rep. Jim Marshall
Rep. Ron Marsico
Rep. Kurt Masser
Rep. John McGinnis
Rep. Carl Metzgar
Rep. Dave Millard
Rep. Brett Miller
Rep. Duane Milne
Rep. Dan Moul
Rep. Mark Mustio
Rep. Tedd Nesbit
Rep. Bernie O'Neill
Rep. Donna Oberlander
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Rep. Tina Pickett
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Rep. Jesse Topper
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Rep. Jeff Wheeland
Rep. Martina White
Rep. David Zimmerman