

United States Senate

February 20, 2024

The Honorable Kamala D. Harris
The Vice President
Old Executive Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20501

SENT VIA ELECTRONIC MAIL

Dear Vice President Harris:

As you are aware, Department of Homeland Security Secretary Alejandro Mayorkas has been impeached by the House of Representatives. The two articles of impeachment adopted by the House assert Secretary Mayorkas has engaged in a willful and systemic refusal to comply with the law by enabling record numbers of illegal immigrants to flood into our country across the southern border, and has breached the public trust through his repeated false statements to Congress and persistent refusal to comply with duly issued congressional subpoenas. This matter now comes before the Senate, which is constitutionally tasked with conducting a trial and rendering judgment on each of the articles of impeachment against Secretary Mayorkas.

As Vice President, the Constitution directs that you also serve as the presiding officer of the U.S. Senate. Although Majority Leader Chuck Schumer has publicly stated he intends for President Pro Tempore Patty Murray to preside over the upcoming impeachment trial of Secretary Mayorkas, I write to encourage and invite you to fulfill your constitutional duty to serve as the presiding officer of Secretary Mayorkas' impeachment trial.

When President Biden appointed you as the "border czar" in early 2021, he tasked you with "stemming the migration to our southern border." In accepting that appointment, you acknowledged a need "to deal with the root causes" of the flows of illegal immigration across our southern border. As such, you should be keenly interested in learning whether a high-ranking member of your administration is one of those "root causes" through his willful and persistent refusal to enforce our country's immigration laws, frustrating the very core function of your role as President Biden's "border czar."

Our states and cities face an ongoing and widespread crisis due to the flood of illegal immigrants streaming across our southern and northern borders and moving freely within the interior of the homeland. As the President of the Senate, you are the appropriate constitutional presiding officer to oversee the impeachment trial of

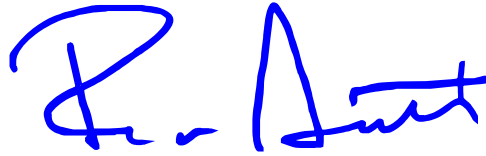
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Secretary Mayorkas, and I encourage you to fulfill that role when the Senate reconvenes later this month.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Rick Scott". The signature is stylized with a large initial "R" and a prominent "S".

Rick Scott

United States Senator