

ONE HUNDRED EIGHTEENTH CONGRESS

Congress of the United States

House of Representatives

COMMITTEE ON THE JUDICIARY

2138 RAYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING

WASHINGTON, DC 20515-6216

(202) 225-6906
judiciary.house.gov

February 27, 2023

The Honorable Xavier Becerra
Secretary
U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
200 Independence Avenue SW
Washington, D.C. 20201

Dear Secretary Becerra:

The Department of Health and Human Services' (HHS) Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR) is charged with the care and placement of unaccompanied alien children referred by U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP).¹ On January 15, 2023, the police department in Aberdeen, Maryland, arrested [REDACTED], a 17-year-old illegal alien and known MS-13 gang member from El Salvador, for the violent assault and murder of 20-year-old Maryland resident Kayla Hamilton.² According to press reports, [REDACTED] entered the United States in Rio Grande City, Texas, as an unaccompanied alien child and identified a woman living in Frederick, Maryland, as his aunt.³

The Biden Administration's open-border policies have created vulnerabilities that criminal aliens and gang members exploit to the detriment of American citizens. Pursuant to the Rules of the House of Representatives, the Committee on the Judiciary is authorized to conduct oversight of federal immigration policy and procedures.⁴ As the Committee continues to conduct oversight of the Biden Administration's enforcement of federal immigration laws, we ask that you please provide the following materials:

¹ William Wilberforce Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2008, Pub. L. No. 110-457 § 235, 112 Stat. 5044, 5077 (2008) (8 U.S.C. § 1232(b)(1)).

² Jeff Hager & Ryan Dickstein, *Police: Teen gang member charged in strangling death of Aberdeen woman with autism*, WMAR (Jan. 19, 2023), <https://www.wmar2news.com/news/local-news/police-teen-gang-member-charged-in-strangling-death-of-aberdeen-woman-with-autism>; Emma Colton, *MS-13 gang member arrested for murder of 20-year-old Maryland woman with autism*, FOX NEWS (Jan. 21, 2023), <https://www.foxnews.com/us/ms-13-gang-member-arrested-murder-20-year-old-maryland-woman-autism>.

³ Anna Giaritelli, *'He Should Have Never Been Allowed In': Mother Demands Border Fix After Daughters Murder by Suspected MS-13 Immigrant*, WASH. EXAMINER (Feb. 1, 2023) <https://www.washingtonexaminer.com/restoring-america/fairness-justice/mother-demands-border-fix-daughter-ms-13-murder>.

⁴ Rules of the U.S. House of Representatives, R. X (2023).

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1. All case history information, including but not limited to [REDACTED] case file, family reunification packet, as well as any materials provided to HHS ORR by federal agencies such as CBP upon [REDACTED] referral and any information provided to HHS ORR pursuant to its request for information from the referring agency.
2. A detailed description of, and related documents regarding, what steps HHS took to establish and verify [REDACTED] age.
3. A detailed description of, and related documents regarding, how HHS officials learned of, or were notified of, [REDACTED] status as a known member of the MS-13 gang, what the source of that information was, and when HHS first learned of that information.
4. A detailed description of, and related documents regarding, how HHS established and verified, if at all, the familial relationship between [REDACTED] and the woman he identified as his aunt.
5. All case materials referring or relating to the vetting of [REDACTED] sponsor, i.e., the woman he identified as his aunt.

Please provide this information as soon as possible, but no later than 5:00 p.m. on March 13, 2023.

If you have any questions, please contact Committee staff at (202) 225-6906. Thank you for your prompt attention to this matter.

Sincerely,



Jim Jordan
Chairman



Tom McClintock
Chairman
Subcommittee on Immigration
Integrity, Security, and Enforcement

cc: The Honorable Jerrold L. Nadler
Ranking Member

The Honorable Pramila Jayapal
Ranking Member
Subcommittee on Immigration Integrity, Security, and Enforcement