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Congress of the United States
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LAND FORCES
SUBCOMMITTEE ON READINESS
SELECT SUBCOMMITTEE ON
THE CORONAVIRUS CRISIS

September 13, 2021

The Honorable Alejandro Mayorkas
Secretary of Homeland Security
Department of Homeland Security
Washington, DC 20528

Dear Secretary Mayorkas:

I am writing to request immediate answers to the status of the Afghan evacuees currently awaiting vetting in the United States as part of Operation Allies Welcome.

On the 29th of August you stated that “President Biden has designated the Department of Homeland Security as the lead Federal agency coordinating with numerous agencies across the Federal government to relocate evacuated Afghans ... I am directing the full resources of our Department to support the operation and ensure its success.” Since, according to your own words, you are the federal official responsible for Afghan evacuees, I am directing the following urgent national security concerns to you for immediate response:

1. What is the vetting process for Afghan evacuees prior to their entry into the United States, and who is doing the vetting?
2. Is there any difference in vetting those evacuees who are overseas as opposed to those who are already in transitional facilities in the U.S.? If the vetting process is different between the two groups, please explain the differences.
3. How many evacuees have been flagged for concern during the vetting and military screening abroad and domestically?
4. Are reports of sexual assault, theft, and violence in evacuee processing facilities accurate, and if so, what is your plan to confront this egregious behavior?
5. How have soldiers assigned to guard the bases housing Afghan evacuees been instructed to deal with evacuees who attempt to leave the base?
6. Have soldiers guarding the bases been prohibited from barring the departure of an evacuee regardless of circumstances and observed behavior of the evacuee?
7. If a soldier guarding the evacuees witnesses a crime, is he instructed to call Military Police? Is he allowed to bring in state or local law enforcement in the state where the base is located if there is not an MP unit at the facility?
8. Reports indicate that the vast majority of evacuees currently in the United States were not interpreters who fought alongside our troops in Afghanistan. What is the breakdown of the number of current evacuees in the United States who directly supported American servicemembers (or are family members of those that did)?
9. What medical vetting is done and are there any medical conditions which would result in a bar to entry to the U.S.?
10. Are there any medical conditions which would require follow up after arrival in the U.S.?

11. What vaccinations are the evacuees getting while in the care of DHS or prior to release into the community?
12. Are exemptions allowed for any vaccinations? If so, on what basis?

Your attention to these grave concerns is of paramount importance to the protection of the American homeland. I am eagerly awaiting your reply.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Mark E. Green". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.

Mark E. Green, MD
Member of Congress