

# United States Senate

September 15, 2022

The Honorable Patrick Leahy  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Richard Shelby  
Vice Chairman  
Senate Committee on Appropriations

The Honorable Chris Murphy  
Chairman  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Homeland Security

The Honorable Shelley Moore Capito  
Ranking Member  
Senate Committee on Appropriations  
Subcommittee on Homeland Security

Dear Chairman Leahy, Vice Chairman Shelby, Chairman Murphy, and Ranking Member Capito:

As you consider the FY 2023 Continuing Resolution, we urge you to include the White House's anomaly request for the Emergency Food and Shelter Program (EFSP). Additionally, we request that you consider providing additional funding for this account based on the increased needs of the grantees providing humanitarian assistance and critical services for asylum seekers.

EFSP, through supplemental funding, provides reimbursements to local nonprofit and governmental social service organizations, as well as states and localities, for providing shelter, food, transportation, and support services to asylum seekers arriving at our southern border. These funds are needed to ensure that shelters do not face financial difficulties or are not forced to stop their operations, placing the burden on our local communities.

Funds appropriated through FY 22 are quickly being drawn down and in the absence of full-year funding, grantees of the program are currently grappling with how to continue to provide critical services to this vulnerable population. Communities and organizations are on the front-lines of assisting migrants coming to our border and resources are being stretched thin as they take on the role of performing a federal government function. This funding is vitally important as more cities in the United States receive refugees and asylum seekers.

Congress has an opportunity to reaffirm its commitment to protecting migrants and the right to seek refuge by extending funding for EFSP. Furthermore, Congress must ensure that communities have the tools necessary to treat migrants fairly and humanely as they flee violence and instability.

Thank you for your consideration of this request, and we look forward to working with you to reaffirm this commitment.

Sincerely,



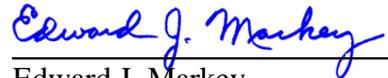
Alex Padilla  
United States Senator



Richard J. Durbin  
United States Senator



Kirsten Gillibrand  
United States Senator



Edward J. Markey  
United States Senator



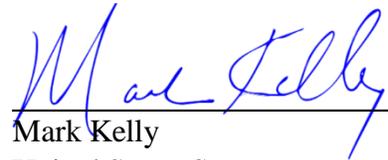
Elizabeth Warren  
United States Senator



Dianne Feinstein  
United States Senator



Ben Ray Lujan  
United States Senator



Mark Kelly  
United States Senator



Martin Heinrich  
United States Senator



Kelly Sinema  
United States Senator