



WISCONSIN LEGISLATURE

P.O. BOX 8952 • MADISON, WI 53708

September 17, 2020

Senator Ron Johnson
328 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Senator Tammy Baldwin
709 Hart Senate Office Building
Washington, DC 20510

Congressman Jim Sensenbrenner
2449 Rayburn H.O.B.
Washington, DC 20515
Congressman

Congressman Ron Kind
1502 Longworth H.O.B.
Washington, DC 20515

Congresswoman Gwen Moore
2252 Rayburn H.O.B.
Washington, DC 20515

Congressman Mark Pocan
1421 Longworth H.O.B.
Washington, DC 20515

Congressman Glenn Grothman
1427 Longworth H.O.B.
Washington, DC 20515

Congressman Mike Gallagher
1230 Longworth H.O.B.
Washington, DC 20515

Congressman Bryan Steil
1408 Longworth H.O.B.
Washington, DC 20515

Congressman Tom Tiffany
1714 Longworth H.O.B.
Washington, DC 20515

Dear Honorable Members of the Wisconsin Congressional Delegation:

We recently became aware of a whistleblower complaint regarding the treatment of immigrants at a U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) detention center in Irwin County, Georgia. We are writing to express our profound alarm and to urge you to do everything within your power to ensure that these allegations are thoroughly investigated and, if proven true, that anyone found complicit is held fully accountable.

The complaint, filed earlier this week by several legal advocacy groups on behalf of a nurse at the Irwin County Detention Center, alleges that immigrants held at the facility have been suffering under horrifically inhumane conditions and treatment. The complaint describes a range of deeply concerning practices including severe medical neglect, fabrication of false medical records, refusal by the facility to adequately monitor and control the spread of Covid-19 in accordance with CDC guidelines, and a disturbingly high rate of hysterectomies performed on people without proper informed consent or medical cause.

If true, this complaint has revealed staggering human rights violations that must be investigated and remedied immediately. International human rights bodies recognize forced or coerced sterilization as a major violation of human rights, and when used to prevent births within a specific group, an act of genocide. Additionally, the practices detailed by the complaint represent flagrant disregard for the human right to health without discrimination. As elected officials, we cannot stand idly by and allow purported violations of these basic human rights to continue. We must do everything within our power to root out injustice in our nation and to promote the humane treatment of all people within it.

Given the gravity and urgency of the complaint, we urge you to do everything within your power to ensure that a thorough investigation begins immediately into the allegations against the Irwin County Detention Center, as

well as any knowledge or involvement by other parties, including the Department of Homeland Security. Furthermore, as these allegations are part of a broader pattern of human rights concerns raised against ICE detention centers and practices, we urge you to look beyond this one facility to ensure that all persons in ICE custody are afforded the medical care and basic human decency they deserve.

Please let us know if you have any questions or concerns. We look forward to hearing from you and appreciate your consideration of our request. Thank you for your leadership during these trying times.

Sincerely,



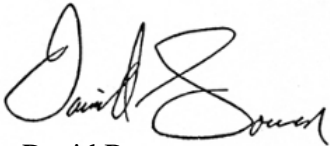
Katrina Shankland
State Representative
71st Assembly District



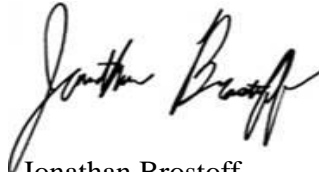
Jimmy Anderson
State Representative
47th Assembly District



Jill Billings
State Representative
95th Assembly District



David Bowen
State Representative
10th Assembly District



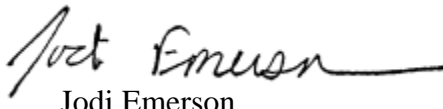
Jonathan Brostoff
State Representative
19th Assembly District



Dave Considine
State Representative
81st Assembly District



Steve Doyle
State Representative
94th Assembly District



Jodi Emerson
State Representative
91st Assembly District



Jason Fields
State Representative
11th Assembly District



Evan Goyke
State Representative
18th Assembly District



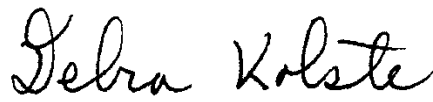
Gary Hebl
State Representative
46th Assembly District



Dianne Hesselbein
State Representative
79th Assembly District



Gordon Hintz
State Representative
54th Assembly District



Debra Kolste
State Representative
44th Assembly District



Tip McGuire
State Representative
64th Assembly District



Beth Meyers
State Representative
74th Assembly District



Nick Milroy
State Representative
73rd Assembly District



LaKeshia Myers
State Representative
12th Assembly District



Greta Neubauer
State Representative
66th Assembly District



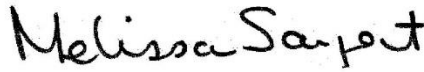
Tod Ohnstad
State Representative
65th Assembly District



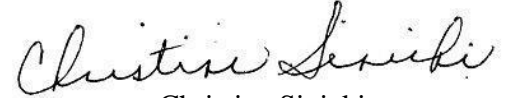
Sondy Pope
State Representative
80th Assembly District



Daniel Riemer
State Representative
7th Assembly District



Melissa Sargent
State Representative
48th Assembly District



Christine Sinicki
State Representative
20th Assembly District



Mark Spreitzer
State Representative
45th Assembly District



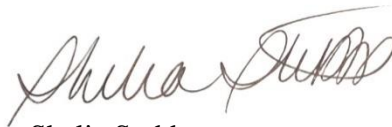
Robyn Vining
State Representative
14th Assembly District



JoCasta Zamarripa
State Representative
8th Assembly District



Marisabel Cabrera
State Representative
9th Assembly District



Shelia Stubbs
State Representative
77th Assembly District



Amanda Stuck
State Representative
57th Assembly District



Lisa Subeck
State Representative
78th Assembly District



Staush Gruszynski
State Representative
90th Assembly District