

Congress of the United States
Washington, DC 20515

November 17, 2015

Governor Jay Nixon
P.O. Box 720
Jefferson City, Missouri 65102

Governor Nixon:

Regrettably, this past weekend we were once again reminded of the grave threat that Islamic State of Iraq and Syria (ISIS) and extremism pose to the global community and the American people. Following the recent tragedies that occurred in Paris, we believe it is more imperative than ever to ensure that those entering our country do not place Missouri families and communities at risk.

The recent attacks in Paris served as an agonizing reminder that terrorism remains an imminent threat to the American people. Moreover, as it has been reported that at least one of the terrorists had a Syrian passport and entered Europe with the waves of migrants fleeing the Syria Civil War, we believe that the president's plan to increase the number of Syrian refugees admitted to the United States poses a genuine threat to the American people. Accordingly, we call on you to take action for the sake of Missourians.


As multiple other governors have now announced that they will oppose any effort of the administration to relocate Syrian refugees in their states, we request that you direct the Missouri Department of Social Services Refugee Resettlement Program to use all available resources to prevent the resettlement of any Syrian refugees in the State of Missouri unless exhaustive and comprehensive security screenings conclude that no individuals constitute any threat to national security. Further, in order to ensure the safety and security of every Missourian, we ask that you make it explicitly clear that the government of Missouri opposes the resettlement of Syrian refugees in our state.

As the governor of the State of Missouri, it is your duty to act in the best interest of the state's citizens; therefore, we ask you make an unequivocal stance that Syrian resettlement in Missouri places our citizens at risk. Though we understand the historical importance of American humanitarian assistance to refugees, extreme actions by those who only seek to inflict pain and suffering cannot be ignored.


Respectfully,


Blaine Luetkemeyer
Member of Congress


Billy Long
Member of Congress



Jason Smith
Member of Congress



Vicky Hartzler
Member of Congress



Ann Wagner
Member of Congress



Sam Graves
Member of Congress