

Congress of the United States  
House of Representatives  
Washington, DC 20515-4315

January 24, 2023

President Joseph R. Biden  
The White House  
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue NW  
Washington, DC 20500

Dear President Biden,

Thank you for your kind invitation to join you and Dr. Biden at the White House reception honoring the members of the 118th Congress. Unfortunately, I am unable to attend.

Our country is facing an unprecedented border crisis with record levels of drugs, like fentanyl, killing our fellow Americans at alarming rates. My community's Border Patrol agents lack basic resources. Too many families in South Texas are struggling to achieve the American Dream and, after a century of one-party control in our region, we still have entire counties without doctors.

While I believe in building good relationships with my colleagues in both parties, at this time, my time is best spent advancing policies that will help South Texans prosper and live safely. I would welcome a meeting at The White House to discuss the issues impacting my community with you and your staff on another occasion.

This 4:00 p.m. reception also coincides a call with my children back home in the Rio Grande Valley. As a single mom, they are my top priority; I am sure you can understand. Besides, I am more of a Shiner Bock and Taco Palenque girl.

Sincerely,



Monica De La Cruz  
Member of Congress