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**Pierre Paul-Hus**  
Député / Member of Parliament  
Charlesbourg—Haute-Saint-Charles

June 2, 2020

The Honourable Bill Blair  
Minister of Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness  
229 Wellington Street, #107  
House of Commons  
Ottawa ON K1A 0H8

### **Object: Addressing the issue of the separation of Canadian families at the border**

Minister Blair:

Since the adoption of the US-Canada Joint Initiative imposing restrictions for travelers crossing the US-Canada land border and its implementation on March 20, 2020, several of my colleagues and I have been inundated by calls and emails from Canadians across the country. These Canadians have explained to us how they are confused and personally affected by the rules applied at the border. On several occasions, constituents have shared personal and emotional stories of spouses, common-law partners or a member of their immediate family being turned away at the border. There are seniors and vulnerable persons behind some of these stories.

This situation has added a tremendous amount of work in our constituency offices. Given the fact that the Government of Canada is currently separating families at the border, and that this situation has become unbearable for many Canadians, I am asking you to take action.

As Minister of Public Safety, you have the responsibility to ensure that our border protects us from the spread of this disease. At the same time, your Government must take all required measures to ensure that this does not result in unnecessary consequences that can add unnecessary hardships for ordinary Canadians, including seniors and vulnerable persons who have been separated from their loved ones because of the interpretation of this agreement made by the Canada Border Services Agency.

Given the resources that come with your ministerial responsibility, I am convinced that you will be able to resolve these cases that have been brought to your attention by Canadians through their Member of Parliament. I also hope, like thousands of Canadians, that you will be able to fix this unjust situation as soon as possible.

Thank you for your attention to this important and urgent matter.



Pierre Paul-Hus, Member of Parliament and Official Opposition Shadow Cabinet Minister for Public Safety and Emergency Preparedness

C.c.:

Glenn Motz, Member of Parliament  
Rob Morrison, Member of Parliament  
Marc Dalton, Member of Parliament  
The Hon. Pierre Poilievre, P.C., Member of Parliament  
Marilyn Gladu, Member of Parliament  
Larry Maguire, Member of Parliament  
Nelly Shin, Member of Parliament  
Tony Baldinelli, Member of Parliament  
Chris Lewis, Member of Parliament  
Kelly Block, Member of Parliament  
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Kevin Waugh, Member of Parliament  
Rachael Harder, Member of Parliament  
The Hon. Rob Moore, P.C., Member of Parliament  
Mel Arnold, Member of Parliament  
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Tracy Gray, Member of Parliament  
Michael Barrett, Member of Parliament  
Jeremy Patzer, Member of Parliament  
Scott Reid, Member of Parliament  
Gary Vidal, Member of Parliament  
Brad Vis, Member of Parliament  
Jasraj Singh Hallan, Member of Parliament  
Earl Dreeshen, Member of Parliament  
John Williamson, Member of Parliament  
Derek Sloan, Member of Parliament  
Martin Shields, Member of Parliament  
Ted Falk, Member of Parliament  
Brad Redekopp, Member of Parliament  
The Hon. Diane Finley, P.C. Member of Parliament  
John Barlow, Member of Parliament  
Bob Benzen, Member of Parliament  
Eric Duncan, Member of Parliament

Ben Lobb, Member of Parliament  
Joël Godin, Member of Parliament  
Phil Coleman, Member of Parliament  
Eric Melillo, Member of Parliament  
Jacques Gourde, Member of Parliament

*Enclosed:* List of Canadians separated from their loved ones at the Canada-US border.