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Michael L. Parson

GOVERNOR
STATE OF MISSOURI

December 30, 2019

Honorable Michael R. Pompeo
Secretary of State
United States Department of State
2201 C. Street, NW
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Pompeo:

Thank you and President Trump for your leadership on immigration issues and your willingness to cooperate and consult with state governments regarding the resettlement of lawfully admitted refugees. Your Executive Order 13888, "Enhancing State and Local Involvement in Refugee Resettlement," allowing states to have greater involvement in the process of determining the placement of properly vetted refugees within their borders is to be applauded.

Missouri has a long and rich history of immigration, dating back to America's earliest explorers, fur traders, and missionaries. Today, Missouri's population includes thousands of former refugees who have become vital members of our communities. Since 2002, nearly 18,000 refugees from 45 countries have resettled in Missouri.

In Missouri, state organizations and faith-based groups work tirelessly to support refugee resettlement. Currently, there are five agencies that integrate refugees in St. Louis, Kansas City, Columbia, and Springfield, where they have helped strengthen local economies, especially through entrepreneurship. These groups do an excellent job of transitioning newly settled populations, ensuring they are educated, trained, and prepared to assimilate into their new community. In fact, St. Louis boasts one of the largest Bosnian populations outside that country itself. Community volunteers, especially faith-based partners, continue to be an integral part of such local resettlement efforts.

Therefore, in response to Executive Order 13888, I, Michael L. Parson, Governor of the State of Missouri, hereby consent to the resettlement of lawfully admitted refugees within the State of Missouri in the communities that request them, in accordance with all applicable laws and regulations. Such consent shall be valid unless or until it is withdrawn.

We will continue to work hard to ensure refugees become a thriving part of our communities, and I am confident this demonstration of compassion will mark the first step in these immigrants becoming patriotic and productive fellow Americans.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Michael L. Parson".

Michael L. Parson
Governor

Daniel K. Atwill, Presiding Commissioner
Fred J. Parry, District I Commissioner
Janet M. Thompson, District II Commissioner



Roger B. Wilson
Boone County Government Center
801 East Walnut, Room 333
Columbia, MO 65201-7732
573-886-4307 • FAX 573-886-4311

Boone County Commission

Secretary Michael R. Pompeo
U.S. Department of State
2201 C Street NW
Washington DC, 20520

December 31, 2019

Dear Secretary Pompeo:

This letter is in reference to Executive Order 13888, "*On Enhancing State and Local Involvement in Resettlement.*"

As Presiding Commissioner of Boone County, Missouri, I consent to initial refugee resettlement in Boone County, Missouri as per the terms of the Executive Order. My consent is valid unless or until withdrawn. The Boone County Commission is aware that refugee resettlement has been occurring in Boone County for several decades and is further aware that the Administration has increased the protections for communities who might receive such refugees through its recent policy decisions. Thus, any risk that might otherwise have existed is substantially diminished because of the Administration's actions.

Sincerely,

Daniel K. Atwill
Presiding Commissioner

CC:
Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Carol T. O'Connell
Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration
U.S. Department of State

Daniel K. Atwill, Presiding Commissioner
Fred J. Parry, District I Commissioner
Janet M. Thompson, District II Commissioner



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Boone County Commission

Attachment: County Jurisdiction

As Presiding Commissioner of Boone County, Missouri, I confirm the following municipalities are within the jurisdiction of Boone County, Missouri:

- Ashland
- Centralia
- Columbia
- Hallsville
- Harrisburg
- Hartsburg
- Huntsdale
- McBaine
- Pierpont
- Rocheport
- Sturgeon

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Dan Atwill", is written over a horizontal line.

Daniel K. Atwill, Presiding Commissioner