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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE



## LULAC IOWA SAYS GOVERNOR REYNOLDS' "OPERATION LONE STAR" SMACKS OF HYPOCRACY

*Latino civil rights organization says our governor needs to quit the political posturing and deal with issues that are actually affecting Iowans.*

**DES MOINES, IA** – The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) of Iowa is frustrated by Gov. Reynolds' continued rhetoric about the dangers posed by immigrants in our communities. Their leaders also say statements about the helping immigrants in who are in danger and fleeing violence are contradicted by her remarks about securing the southern border.

At this morning's press conference, the governor and Iowa State Troopers first explained that they were at the border to offer humanitarian aid. LULAC leadership says Gov. Reynolds flipped the conversation to fearful language suggesting an influx of criminals, drugs and human traffickers if the border isn't secured.

*"Governor Reynolds is simply engaging in political posturing. She has previously denied humanitarian aid from Iowa when asked to help refugee immigrant children," said LULAC Iowa Political Director Joe Henry. "How can we say we want to extend humanitarian aid while we shut the door to those seeking refuge at the same time? Governor, you can't do both unless you are playing politics with the lives of victims."*

**LULAC Iowa State Director, Nick Salazar** says today's press conference shows that the deployment of Iowa State Troopers to the Texas border was nothing more than a political stunt at the expense of immigrants and Iowa taxpayers.

*"Iowa State Troopers assisting in the militarization of the Mexican border and participating in photo ops with immigrants over a two week period did nothing but help reinforce the governor's false border narrative," said Salazar. "The governor should focus on issues of real importance in the state she was elected to serve."*

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### About LULAC

The League of United Latin American Citizens (LULAC) is the nation's largest and oldest Hispanic civil rights volunteer-based organization that empowers Hispanic Americans and builds strong Latino communities. Headquartered in Washington, DC, with 1,000 councils around the United States and Puerto Rico, LULAC's programs, services and advocacy address the most important issues for Latinos, meeting critical needs of today and the future. For more information, visit <https://lulac.org/>