December 10, 2019

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

RE: Refugee Resettlement

Dear Secretary Pompeo:

   This letter is in reference to Executive Order 13888, “On Enhancing State and Local Involvement in Resettlement” signed by President Donald Trump. As Governor of the State of Delaware, I am writing to affirm that Delaware consents to resettling refugees in our state.

   Our country has historically been a refuge of safe harbor for those fleeing war-torn countries, violence, and political persecution. We should continue to stand as a beacon of hope and freedom for people around the world. In that spirit, as Delawareans, we are proud to do our part, and continue to accept the resettlement of refugees.

   We know that refugees are legal immigrants who undergo a robust process to enter our country. That process includes interviews with government agencies, health screenings and multiple security checks. And more than half of all refugees are children who are seeking safe harbor in the United States.

   Although we are communicating with you about the implementation of Executive Order 13888 (EO), communication about, or participation in, the implementation of the EO should not be construed as an endorsement of its legality, given the pending federal lawsuit in Maryland challenging the EO.

Sincerely,

John C. Carney
Governor, State of Delaware
Cc:  Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary Carol T. O'Connell
     Bureau of Population, Refugees, and Migration
     U.S. Department of State