



**BILL LEE**  
GOVERNOR  
STATE OF TENNESSEE

December 18, 2019

The Honorable Mike Pompeo  
Secretary of State  
U.S. Department of State  
2201 C Street, N.W.  
Washington, DC 20520

Dear Secretary Pompeo:

I am writing to you today about Executive Order 13888 signed by President Trump as part of his Administration's work to strengthen our national security while enhancing Tennessee's ability to cooperate and consult in the process of resettling refugees prioritized by the Administration who are fleeing persecution. Thank you for consulting with the states to ensure this process is successful. We feel strongly that this consultation is appropriate and that the federal government would be overstepping by requiring states to participate in this program.

As Governor of Tennessee, I consent to initial refugee resettlement in Tennessee per the terms of Executive Order 13888.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Lee".

Bill Lee  
Governor

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