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Attorney General Loretta Lynch  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Ave  
Washington, D.C. 20530

Dear Attorney General Lynch:

I want to thank you for the new policies regarding sanctuary cities that you announced during your testimony before the Commerce, Justice, and Science Appropriation Subcommittee hearing this week.

The change you announced to Bureau of Prisons policy is commendable. By offering Immigrations and Customs Enforcement (ICE) the opportunity to deport individuals rather than releasing them to sanctuary cities, your actions will go a long way to preventing further tragedies like the murder of Kate Steinle.

You also testified that you would take steps to ensure that entities receiving Department of Justice grants comply with applicable Federal law. I have attached a list of sanctuary cities from the Center for Immigration Studies. I believe many of these jurisdictions are violating applicable Federal law, and I ask you to review this list to ensure that these jurisdictions are in compliance. I am particularly interested to know if they are complying with 8 U.S.C. 1373, which prohibits jurisdictions from carrying out policies that prohibit the sharing of information regarding the immigration status of individuals in their custody with the Department of Homeland Security. I would expect you to seek advice from ICE on the cooperation they are receiving from those jurisdictions.

I look forward to working with you to ensure that Department of Justice grantees are complying with applicable Federal laws, such as 8 U.S.C. 1373. I also appreciate the efforts of the hard-working men and women of the Justice Department—as well as efforts of your state and local partners—in keeping our nation safe.

Sincerely,



John Culberson  
Chairman

Subcommittee on Commerce, Justice, Science,  
and Related Agencies