From: Peel, Jackson
To: FLHouseDems

Subject: FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Leader Driskell Reacts to Governor Blaming President Biden for Florida's Border Crisis

Date: Friday, January 6, 2023 5:03:17 PM

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

January 6, 2023

CONTACT

Jackson Peel Communications Director House Democratic Office jackson.peel@myfloridahouse.gov 850-717-5297

Leader Driskell Reacts to Governor Blaming President Biden for Florida's Border Crisis

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. – Following **Governor DeSantis**' announcement today that he is activating the Florida National Guard in response to migrants arriving in South Florida, **Leader Fentrice Driskell (D-Tampa)** said the following,

"While this influx of migrants into South Florida certainly needs to be addressed, DeSantis is making the issue about President Biden in a blatant attempt to raise his own national profile.

His press release mentioned President Biden's name five times but never mentioned the hardliners in Congress who've spent years campaigning on our broken immigration system but never working towards a real solution.

The Biden Administration inherited this problem, they did not cause it.

Congress must act – both to provide the resources to strengthen safety and enforcement, and to finally give us immigration reform. President Biden been asking for this since his first day in office.

Instead of taking more than a dozen failed attempts to elect a Speaker of the House, Congressional Republicans could get their act together and work towards changes to help secure our borders while keeping adequate paths for residency and citizenship. It is, quite literally, what is promised on that most recognizable American symbol, the Statue of Liberty: "Give me your tired, your poor, your huddled masses yearning to breathe free."

For a man who so obviously wants to migrate from Florida to the White House, Ron DeSantis certainly has little empathy for migrants trying to find a better life."