



Government details how separated families will be reunited – eventually

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Trump said that with a 3.8 percent jobless rate, the United States needs immigrants for jobs that need to be filled, but he wants them to be legal immigrants.

His appearance came hours after he suggested that some of the current tales of separation were "phony stories". But that rare moment of public capitulation was brief from the president, who laced his remarks at a rally in Minnesota that night with hardline immigration rhetoric that continued Friday.

"We must maintain a Strong Southern Border", he said.

With both White House arguments proving untenable and public pressure mounting in the wake of photographs of children kept in cages at a Texas facility and audio of them crying out for their moms and dads, Trump signed an executive order Wednesday meant to keep families together at the border.

President Donald Trump, after a tactical retreat this week on immigration policy, demonstrated Friday that there is no strategic shift to his overall tough approach to those attempting to illegally enter the country, and vowing to "end the immigration crisis, once and for all".

"I'm very anxious that we're headed from one humanitarian crisis to another", New Mexico Senator Tom Udall said on Saturday after touring the temporary detention facility in Tornillo, Texas, for children ages 13 to 17.

Evelyn Stauffer, a spokeswoman for the Department of Health and Human Services, said her agency is trying to help reunite families or place unaccompanied immigrant children with an appropriate sponsor.

The president signed an executive order on Wednesday to stop undocumented immigrant children being detained separately from their parents after they have illegally entered the country. By asking Republicans to push off a vote until after the midterm elections, Trump is

taking a risk: If Democrat take control of the House, they are unlikely to approve funding for building a wall along the southwest border with Mexico.

"These are the stories that Democrats and people that are weak on immigration, they don't want to discuss, they don't want to hear, they don't want to see, they don't want to talk about", Trump said at the White House. They also said that even when parents and children aren't separated, they're often housed in adjacent cells that keep them apart.

Before asking the parents at the event to tell how their children died, Trump argued that the media were unfairly ignoring their plight.

The president focused on families whose loved ones have been killed, not temporarily separated, saying "the word you have to think about is 'permanently'". "Obama and others had the same pictures, and did nothing about it!"

Other Trump allies have gone even further. Trump railed against the MS-13 gang, heroin from outside the United States, and "catch and release" immigration enforcement. But without Trump's backing, the bill is essentially guaranteed to fail.

"Your loss will not have been in vain", Trump said.

Many of them held large photos of their loved ones, some of which the president autographed.

Wilkerson said when she wants to see her son, "we go to the cemetery".

However, studies have shown that undocumented immigrants are less likely to commit a crime in the US than native-born citizens, including one published by the libertarian CATO Institute this year.

Earlier Friday morning, the president tweeted, "Republicans should stop wasting their *time* on Immigration until after we elect more Senators and Congressmen/women in November".

Trump also promoted the office his Administration created at the Department of Homeland Security dealing with immigrant crime called VOICE (Victims of Immigration Crime Engagement). The hotline handled a total of 4,602 calls including general comments. The immigrants are mostly teenage boys and housed in tent-like structures.

Having been forced into a climbdown on the hot-button issue of immigration, Trump swung back into fighting mode - insisting he remained committed to the "zero tolerance" policy that aims to deter the flow of migrants from Central America. But the mayor of San Diego, Kevin Faulconer, is a Republican who did not provide a tip; a mayor who did was Libby Schaaf, a Democrat from Oakland,