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**ATTORNEY GENERAL LUTHER STRANGE PRAISES
FEDERAL JUDGE DECISION TO CONTINUE HOLD ON
EXECUTIVE AMNESTY ORDER**

(MONTGOMERY) – Attorney General Luther Strange praised a decision by a Texas federal judge to continue a hold on President Obama’s executive order that effectively grants amnesty to millions of undocumented immigrants in the United States.

“U.S. District Judge Andrew Hanen ruled late Tuesday to continue a February 17, 2015, hold he placed on the Obama administration’s executive amnesty order,” Attorney General Strange said. “The judge’s decision to deny the administration’s request to lift the hold is the right course of action as the legality of the president’s amnesty order is challenged in federal court by Alabama and 25 other states.

“The Obama administration has demonstrated a pattern of disregard of the constitutional limits of its authority and the president’s November 20, 2014, amnesty order which usurped Congressional approval was illegal and should be halted. A bipartisan majority of the states is determined to hold the administration accountable in federal court.”

On December 3, 2014, Alabama joined a federal lawsuit, Texas v. U.S., challenging the constitutionality of President Obama’s executive amnesty order. The multi-state lawsuit makes clear the issue is not about immigration, but rather the rule of law, presidential power, and the enforcement of the U.S. Constitution. By his own action and contrary to laws passed by Congress, the President “issued a directive that legalizes the presence of approximately 40% of the known undocumented immigrant population, and affords them legal rights and benefits...That unilateral suspension of the Nation’s immigration laws is unlawful,” the lawsuit asserts.

Joining Texas in the lawsuit are Alabama, Arizona, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Idaho, Indiana, Kansas, Louisiana, Maine, Michigan, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, North Carolina, North Dakota, Ohio, Oklahoma, South Carolina, South Dakota, Tennessee, Utah, West Virginia and Wisconsin.

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