

## DIOCESE OF LITTLE ROCK

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September 3, 2013

To the people of the Diocese of Little Rock:

You may have read that many Catholic bishops and priests across the country will preach this month in support of comprehensive immigration reform with a path to citizenship for unauthorized immigrants. In terms of politics, we are at a now-or-never moment because the Fall Term of Congress begins September 9. If we are not successful in convincing reluctant legislators now, it will be even harder to do so by the end of the year.

Though the Senate passed an immigration overhaul in June, the legislation has stalled in the House. Therefore I urge you to contact our Representatives now to urge them to legislate in favor of comprehensive immigration reform with a path to citizenship in line with the principles articulated on the USCCB Justice for Immigrants website (justiceforimmigrants.org) and my pastoral letter "I Was a Stranger and you Welcomed Me" on the Diocese of Little Rock website (http://www.dolr.org/bishop/iwasastrangerletter/iwasastrangerpastoralletter.php). Tell them that you support immigration reform that:

- 1. Preserves family unity as a corner-stone of our national immigration system;
- 2. Provides legal paths for low-skilled immigrant workers to come and work in the United States;
- 3. Restores due process protections to our immigration enforcement policies; and
- 4. Addresses the root causes (push factors) of migration, such as persecution and economic disparity.

Please pray for them and assure them that we can provide them the moral support they need to undertake comprehensive immigration reform in the face of criticism from anti-immigrant activists. The easiest way to contact your member of Congress is through the House switchboard at (202) 224-3121 or contact the Congressional Delegation:

- Sen. John Boozman [R] (202) 224-4843 http://www.boozman.senate.gov/public/index.cfm/home
- Sen. Mark Pryor [D] (202) 224-2353http://www.pryor.senate.gov/public/index.cfm?p=ContactForm

Also, you may contact your congressional district representative:

- District 1 Rep. Eric "Rick" Crawford [R] (202) 225-4076 http://crawford.house.gov/contact/ •
- District 2 Rep. Tim Griffin [R] (202) 225-2506 https://griffin.house.gov/contact-me/email-me •
- District 3 Rep. Steve Womack [R] •

(202) 225-4301

District 4 — Rep. Tom Cotton [R] •

http://womack.house.gov/contact/

- (202) 225-3772

https://cotton.house.gov/contact/email-me

Sincerely in Christ,

Bishop of Little Rock

Ann. +Anthony B/raylor