

September 6, 2006

The Honorable Ed Whitfield
U.S. House of Representatives
301 Cannon House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Whitfield,

As you know, in December 2005 the House of Representatives passed H.R. 4437, the Border Security, Anti-Terrorism, and Illegal Immigration Prevention Act of 2005. On behalf of Kentucky's Bishops, I urge you to support comprehensive immigration reform, despite your previous vote for H.R. 4437. The Bishops support enforcement of our immigration laws, as long as these laws respect the basic human rights of migrants. Current immigration laws and H.R. 4437, in their judgment, fail in this regard. Therefore, as a matter of justice, any bill which comes out of a House-Senate conference committee must include:

- 1) a viable path to citizenship for the 11-12 million undocumented in the country;
- 2) a temporary worker program which protects the rights of workers and includes a path to citizenship for those who choose it;
- 3) family-based immigration reform to reduce waiting times for family reunification;
- 4) restoration of due process protections, and
- 5) policies which address the root causes of economic flight.

The Bishops of Kentucky have issued a Statement, *Every Man and Woman is the Image of God*, calling for such reform now. A copy is enclosed. "For Christians, the migrant is not merely an individual to be respected in accordance with the norms established by law, but a person whose presence challenges them and whose needs become an obligation for their responsibility. 'What have you done to your brother?' (cf. Gn 4:9). The answer should not be limited to what is imposed by law, but should be made in the manner of solidarity." ("Undocumented Migrants," Message of Pope John Paul II for the World Migration Day, 1996) Nos. 3, 5.

We ask that you work for the just treatment in our laws of the children of God who are immigrants. Only a comprehensive immigration bill will fix this flawed immigration system. I urge that you support a comprehensive immigration bill consistent with the above principles and relay that support to the leadership of the House of Representatives and the House committee chairmen.

Sincerely,

Edward C. Monahan
Executive Director

September 6, 2006

The Honorable Ron Lewis
U.S. House of Representatives
2418 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Lewis,

As you know, in December 2005 the House of Representatives passed H.R. 4437, the Border Security, Anti-Terrorism, and Illegal Immigration Prevention Act of 2005. On behalf of Kentucky's Bishops, I urge you to support comprehensive immigration reform, despite your previous vote for H.R. 4437. The Bishops support enforcement of our immigration laws, as long as these laws respect the basic human rights of migrants. Current immigration laws and H.R. 4437, in their judgment, fail in this regard. Therefore, as a matter of justice, any bill which comes out of a House-Senate conference committee must include:

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Sincerely,

Edward C. Monahan
Executive Director

September 6, 2006

The Honorable Anne Northup
U.S. House of Representatives
2459 Rayburn, 4th FL
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Northup,

As you know, in December 2005 the House of Representatives passed H.R. 4437, the Border Security, Anti-Terrorism, and Illegal Immigration Prevention Act of 2005. On behalf of Kentucky's Bishops, I urge you to support comprehensive immigration reform, despite your previous vote for H.R. 4437. The Bishops support enforcement of our immigration laws, as long as these laws respect the basic human rights of migrants. Current immigration laws and H.R. 4437, in their judgment, fail in this regard. Therefore, as a matter of justice, any bill which comes out of a House-Senate conference committee must include:

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Sincerely,

Edward C. Monahan
Executive Director

September 6, 2006

The Honorable Geoff Davis
U.S. House of Representatives
1541 Longworth House Office Bldg., 5th FL
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Davis,

As you know, in December 2005 the House of Representatives passed H.R. 4437, the Border Security, Anti-Terrorism, and Illegal Immigration Prevention Act of 2005. On behalf of Kentucky's Bishops, I urge you to support comprehensive immigration reform, despite your previous vote for H.R. 4437. The Bishops support enforcement of our immigration laws, as long as these laws respect the basic human rights of migrants. Current immigration laws and H.R. 4437, in their judgment, fail in this regard. Therefore, as a matter of justice, any bill which comes out of a House-Senate conference committee must include:

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Sincerely,

Edward C. Monahan
Executive Director

September 6, 2006

The Honorable Hal Rogers
U.S. House of Representatives
2406 Rayburn House Office Building
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Rogers,

As you know, in December 2005 the House of Representatives passed H.R. 4437, the Border Security, Anti-Terrorism, and Illegal Immigration Prevention Act of 2005. On behalf of Kentucky's Bishops, I urge you to support comprehensive immigration reform, despite your previous vote for H.R. 4437. The Bishops support enforcement of our immigration laws, as long as these laws respect the basic human rights of migrants. Current immigration laws and H.R. 4437, in their judgment, fail in this regard. Therefore, as a matter of justice, any bill which comes out of a House-Senate conference committee must include:

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Sincerely,

Edward C. Monahan
Executive Director

September 6, 2006

The Honorable Ben Chandler
U.S. House of Representatives
1117 Longworth House Office Bldg.
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Representative Chandler,

As you know, in December 2005 the House of Representatives passed H.R. 4437, the Border Security, Anti-Terrorism, and Illegal Immigration Prevention Act of 2005. On behalf of Kentucky's Bishops, I urge you to support comprehensive immigration reform, despite your previous vote for H.R. 4437. The Bishops support enforcement of our immigration laws, as long as these laws respect the basic human rights of migrants. Current immigration laws and H.R. 4437, in their judgment, fail in this regard. Therefore, as a matter of justice, any bill which comes out of a House-Senate conference committee must include:

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