

LEGISLATIVE HOT LINE



1-800-869-6525 Ext 6690

**Sponsored by the Five Catholic Commissions and the Catholic Campaign for Human Development of the Secretariat for Catholic Charities Health and Human Services
Diocese of Cleveland**

April 15, 2006

IMMIGRATION REFORM NEEDS YOUR VOICE!

Social Action Prayer & Call-In Day – Thursday, April 27, 2006

Immigration reform is presently being debated in the U.S. Congress. A recent statement by Bishop Anthony M. Pilla highlighted the importance of this debate, our position as Church, and the elements we should request our legislators to include in new legislation. He said, in part:

The outcome of the current debate in our nation regarding immigration reform is one that will have far reaching effects for years to come. By all accounts, our current policy is broken and fundamentally flawed. It does not serve us well as a people... In the gospel of Matthew, Jesus calls upon us to “welcome the stranger,” for “what you do to the least of my brethren, you do unto me.” (Mt. 25-35, 40)

Today, we have a wonderful opportunity to enact legislation that is humane and yet addresses legitimate economic, legal, social, and security issues...For quite some time now, we have advocated:

- *Policies that address the root causes of migration.*
- *Reform of our legal immigration system, including the adoption of an earned legalization program for undocumented workers and their families; a temporary worker program with appropriate protections for both U.S. and foreign workers; and reform of the family preference system, so families can be united in a timely fashion.*
- *Restoration of due process protections for immigrants to allow them to have “their day in court,” consistent with American values.*

Please call your senators and representatives on Thursday, April 27. Urge them to incorporate the above policies in their immigration legislation so that a new immigration system is created that reflects our deepest held values. Pray that we may all recognize and act upon our Gospel call to treat immigrants in a fair and compassionate manner.

Speak NOW! You can make a difference!

Faith in the presence of Christ in the migrant leads to a conversion of mind and heart, which leads to a renewed spirit of communion and to the building of structures of solidarity to accompany the migrant. “Strangers No Longer: Together on the Journey of Hope” – A Pastoral Letter concerning Migration issued by the Catholic Bishops of Mexico and the U.S., January 22, 2003.

Legislator	District	Phone	Fax	Websites to use for E-mailing
Senator Mike DeWine		216.522.7272	216.522.2239	http://dewine.senate.gov
Senator George Voinovich		216.522.7095	216.522.7097	http://voinovich.senate.gov
Rep Sherrod Brown	13	440.245.5350	440.934.5145	http://www.house.gov/sherrodbrown/
Rep Paul Gillmor	5	419.448.9016	800.278.8203	http://www.house.gov/gillmor/
Rep Marcy Kaptur	9	419.259.7500	419.255.9623	http://www.kaptur.house.gov/
Rep Dennis J Kucinich	10	216.228.8850	216.228.6465	http://kucinich.house.gov/
Rep Steve LaTourette	14	440.352.3939	440.352.3622	http://www.house.gov/latourette/
Rep Ralph Regula	16	330.489.4414	330.489.4448	http://wwwc.house.gov/regula/
Rep Tim Ryan	17	330.740.0193	330.740.0182	http://timryan.house.gov/hor/oh17
Rep Stephanie Tubbs Jones	11	216.522.4900	216.522.4908	http://www.house.gov/tubbsjones/

For more information, consult www.catholic-action.org