

An Open Letter to Members of the United States Congress

As women religious and members of the Sisters of Charity Federation in the United States, we are committed to serving the most vulnerable. United in mission, we embrace our calling to respond to the needs of those living in poverty and on the margins, while also caring for our common home.

We can no longer be silent as we witness abrupt and devastating policy changes that threaten the well-being of our communities, particularly the most vulnerable among us. Our faith, along with the values our country was founded on, calls us to act in solidarity with all people, especially those who suffer injustice, exclusion, and hardship. As members of Congress, you bear the profound responsibility of shaping policies that reflect the moral values of justice, compassion, and respect for human rights and human dignity.

We urge you to recognize your moral authority in making decisions that impact the lives of countless individuals. Your votes and actions matter—they define our nation's character and determine whether we uphold the principles of decency, fairness, and humanity. Furthermore, we must recognize that we are part of a global community, with shared resources and a deeply interconnected economy. Our nation cannot afford to be isolationist; our policies must reflect our responsibility to engage with and support our shared humanity.

Rooted in the Gospel and the teachings of our Catholic faith, we uphold the inherent dignity of every person, created in the image of God. We call upon you to:

- Prioritize policies that protect and uplift the poor, the marginalized, and the oppressed.
- Advocate for just immigration laws that respect the dignity of migrants and refugees.
- Promote environmental policies that safeguard our common home for future generations.
- Ensure equitable access to healthcare, education, and basic human needs for all.
- Reject divisive rhetoric and legislation that devalues human life and dignity.

We stand in solidarity with all our sisters and brothers who seek a more just and compassionate world. We implore you to stand with us in advocating for policies that reflect the core values of human rights and human dignity, justice, and peace. Let us move forward together with a commitment to the call to love, to welcome the stranger, and to care for one another.

Sincerely,

Sister Carol M. Blegina, SC *Sister Donna Dodge, SC* *Sister Susan George*
Sister Monica Gendler, SC *Eileen Hayes, SCL* *Sister Christina Maggi, SC*
Sister Mary Joseph Ritter *Sister Maureen Shaughnessy, S.C.*
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