



New times on immigration law are coming

Statement by Monsignor José H. Gómez, Archbishop of Los Angeles in relation to migratory issues

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The Department of Justice and Solidarity of the Celam sympathizes with the letter of Mgr. José Gómez, Archbishop of Los Angeles, and President of the Committee on Migratory Matters.

The Department of Justice and Solidarity of the CELAM sympathizes with the letter of Mgr. José Gómez, Archbishop of Los Angeles, President of the Committee on Migratory Affairs, Conference of Catholic Bishops of the United States. UU, September 8, 2011, on the immigration law of the State of Alabama.

Human mobility, internal and external immigration are massive phenomena that mark the current world of globalization, where the laws of supply and demand for labor in markets are imposed. We celebrate and present the tradition of the United States as a country of migrants and its historical legacy of religious freedom. We believe that human life and its inherent dignity should never be reduced to the single logic of the market, to risk considering it as an object or a mere commodity.

Christians must remember that respect for people and their rights constitute the basic condition of human beings. Therefore, we join with the American bishops in their efforts to stop the entry into force of a state law that endangers the ministry of the Church in Alabama to undocumented immigrants.

Statement by Monsignor José H. Gómez
Archbishop of Los Angeles

President, Committee for Migratory Affairs, Conference of Catholic Bishops of the United States

September 8, 2011

About Alabama State Immigration law

In the name of the catholic bishops of the United States, I offer my solidarity and support to Archbishop Thomas J. Rodi, Archbishop of Mobile, Alabama, and Bishop Robert J. Baker, Bishop of Birmingham, Alabama, who in close collaboration with other religious leaders of the State are making efforts to stop the entry into force of a state law that jeopardizes the ministry of the Church in Alabama to undocumented immigrants.

The Catholic Church provides pastoral and social services to all people regardless of their immigration status. We must provide pastoral and social care to all the children of God. The government should not get in the way of that duty, as the founders of this nation made clear in the United States Constitution.

As chairman of the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops Committee on migration issues, I again call on the Administration and Congress to pass comprehensive immigration reform. Our country has a great need for a federal solution to the challenge of illegal immigration, a solution in which the rule of law is balanced with humanitarian principles.

Tags: Alabama, immigration reform, Committee for Migratory Affairs, Archbishop José Gómez, Archbishop Thomas J. Rodi, Bishop Robert J. Baker, American bishops, USCCB

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