FAITH LEADERS SPEAK OUT ON IMMIGRATION

To the Honorable Joe Lombardo, Governor of Nevada, Senator Catherine Cortez Masto, Senator Jacky Rosen, and Nevada's Representatives Dina Titus, Mark Amodei, Susie Lee, and Steven Horsford,

Recognizing the inherent dignity of each person as a child of God, we stand in firm solidarity with our immigrant brothers and sisters who live and labor in these United States.

From the founding of our nation, immigrants have been essential to this society's growth and prosperity. They come to our shores as strangers, drawn by the promises this land offers, and they become Americans. They continue to provide food security, health services, and many other essential skills that support our prosperous nation.

Our country deserves an immigration system that offers fair and generous pathways to full citizenship for immigrants living and working for many years within our borders.

We need a system that provides permanent relief for childhood arrivals, helps families stay together, and welcomes refugees.

We hope that our country can develop an effective asylum system for those fleeing persecution and an immigration system that keeps our borders safe and secure, with enforcement policies that focus on those who present risks and dangers to society, particularly efforts to reduce gang activity, stem the flow of drugs, and end human trafficking.

The United States should have an immigration system that protects vulnerable migrants and their families, many of whom have already been victimized by criminal actors.

Together, we must speak out on behalf of the "huddled masses yearning to breathe free" and ask our government to provide fair and humane treatment for our beloved immigrant brothers and sisters. It is our hope, and our prayer, that all of us can work together to support a meaningful reform of our current immigration system.

Sincerely,

+ Mange L. Thronge Most Reverend George Leo Thomas, Ph.D.

Most Reverend George Leo Thomas, Ph.D. Roman Catholic Archbishop of Las Vegas Board Chair of Nevada Catholic Conference

+ Daniel Musequelong Most Reverend Daniel H. Mueggenborg

Most Reverend Daniel H. Mueggenborg Roman Catholic Bishop of Reno Board Member of Nevada Catholic Conference

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