

## TALKING POINTS FOR REPRESENTATIVES

### FOR INTERNAL USE ONLY

**Background.** Over August and early September, when members of Congress are back in their home districts, it is important that bishops and dioceses reach out to them in support of immigration reform. The following are a short set of talking points on the issue of immigration reform. Backgrounders on particular issues are attached.

- Representative, I ask that you support immigration reform legislation which is comprehensive in nature and not simply enforcement. It is time to repair the entire immigration system, not just one aspect of the system.
- Specifically, I ask that you support legislation which includes the following:
  - A path to citizenship which is accessible and viable for the 11 million undocumented in the country;
  - Policies that preserve family unity as the cornerstone of our nation's immigration policy, including a reduction in family backlogs and expedited processing for family reunification;
  - A future flow worker program for low-skilled workers so they can enter the United States in a safe and legal manner;
  - The restoration of due process protections so immigrants can have their day in court; and
  - Policies which address the root causes of migration, such as poverty and persecution.
- We encourage you to carefully consider and support bipartisan comprehensive legislation considered by the House which meets these principles. Representative, now is the time to repair our broken immigration system, and I hope you will help achieve that goal, including a path to citizenship and family unity.