

- ◆ The participation of the Michigan Catholic Conference in the democratic process is rooted in scripture and in the principles of Catholic social teaching:
 - ❖ To recognize the sacredness and dignity of every person
 - ❖ To promote a commitment to the common good
 - ❖ To foster the fundamental rights of life, food, shelter, health care, education and employment
 - ❖ To show special concerns for the poor and vulnerable members of society
 - ❖ To respect all creation, recognizing our stewardship of the earth, not ownership
- ◆ Founded in 1963, the Michigan Catholic Conference serves as the official voice of the Catholic Church in Michigan on matters of public policy.
- ◆ Michigan Catholic Conference speaks on behalf of over two and a quarter million Catholics in Michigan, one-quarter of the state's residents in the seven dioceses: Detroit (Archdiocese), Gaylord, Grand Rapids, Kalamazoo, Lansing, Marquette and Saginaw.
- ◆ Michigan Catholic Conference is a not-for-profit organization governed by a fourteen member Board of Directors comprised of the seven diocesan bishops, five lay members, one priest and one religious sister.
- ◆ Michigan Catholic Conference presents the official Catholic position on matters of public policy with one voice to the legislative and executive branches of government at both the state and federal levels. In cooperation and coordination with parishes, education and human service agencies, diocesan offices, and other religious and non-sectarian associations, Michigan Catholic Conference explores solutions to pressing social problems.
- ◆ Guided by the biblical imperative for a commitment to justice, the Conference advocates on such wide-ranging topics as education, health care, economics, immigration, human life, family and children's issues and religious freedom.

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