



March 1, 2010

Dear Representative:

Thank you for voting to uphold the life, dignity and health of 77,000 of Minnesota's poorest and most vulnerable adults. Temporarily extending the General Assistance Medical Care (GAMC) program while excluding coverage for abortion services upholds human life and dignity. We believe that access to affordable health care that protects and supports the life, dignity and health of all people is a matter of justice.

As you know, the GAMC program is scheduled to end in less than five weeks. We are gravely concerned that our neighbors with the greatest needs will suffer if the legislature does not pass and the Governor does not sign legislation creating a temporary GAMC program soon. We strongly believe that shifting people to MinnesotaCare is not a viable solution. We urge you to continue to support Senate File 2168, because it guarantees accessible and quality care to our neighbors with the greatest needs in a way that safeguards human life and dignity. As we shared in our February 18, 2010 letter, "when we deny health care for any human person, we ignore their human dignity. And when we ignore their human dignity, we fail to recognize and value human life itself."

We are greatly disappointed that S.F. 2168 was not signed into law. To this end, we urge you to override the veto of S.F. 2168. We must enact a reformed GAMC program well in advance of March 31, 2010. Our neighbors with the greatest needs, whom we are called to defend, are counting on us!

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Archbishop John C. Nienstedt

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Archbishop Emeritus Harry J. Flynn

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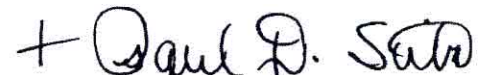
Auxiliary Bishop Lee A. Piché

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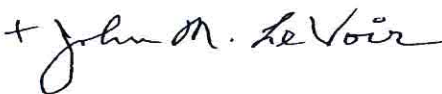
Bishop Michael J. Hoepfner

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Bishop Emeritus Victor H. Balke

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Bishop Paul D. Sirba

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Bishop John M. LeVoir

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Bishop John F. Kinney

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Bishop John M. Quinn

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Bishop Emeritus Bernard J. Harrington