

The Honorable Mike Johnson  
Speaker  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable John Thune  
Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Hakeem Jeffries  
Minority Leader  
United States House of Representatives  
Washington, D.C. 20515

The Honorable Chuck Schumer  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
Washington, D.C. 20510

May 18, 2026

Dear Members of Congress,

As **151** faith based organizations, collectively representing millions of people of faith across every state and territory, we write to express our opposition to the proposed budget reconciliation bill. Across our many traditions we share a common call to welcome the sojourner and care for our neighbor. For many households, increasing living expenses combined with cuts to social safety net programs are undermining their ability to meet their basic needs. Instead of addressing these urgent challenges, this bill would increase spending on immigration enforcement, without key safeguards, despite widespread concerns about harmful policies and practices. As basic human needs go unmet, this legislation will further imperil our communities and neighbors.

This proposed bill comes at a time when many Americans are struggling to afford basic necessities such as rent, health care, groceries, and energy. Across almost every essential good and service, [costs increased](#) over a 12-month period. [In some states](#), families are paying as much as \$2,000 more for the same goods and services compared to last year. The contraction of foundational federal social safety net programs has also reversed decades of progress in promoting upward social mobility and reducing economic vulnerability. The “One Big Beautiful Bill Act” (OBBBA) (P.L. 119-21), included an estimated [\\$1 trillion in cuts](#) to federal health care programs like Medicare and Medicaid and major cuts to hunger programs like the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP). These cuts have already had a severe impact in states like [Arizona](#) where SNAP participation has dropped over 40% and [Nebraska](#), where the rollout of new Medicaid work requirements has heightened fear about losing insurance. The OBBBA also made many refugee and immigrant neighbors who do not yet have a green card ineligible for SNAP, and will soon render them ineligible for

Medicaid as well. Congress's cuts to the social safety net have weakened institutional supports that provide stability and protect families against poverty.

The new proposed bill would mark the second time in two years that Congress has used the reconciliation process to increase spending for immigration enforcement, at the expense of human needs, discounting serious concerns about current policies and practices. In July of 2025, the OBBBA allocated \$170 billion for federal agencies to increase arrests in communities across the country and expand detention capacity, including long-term detention of children and families. The consequences of sweeping federal Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE) and Customs and Border Protection (CBP) actions could not be starker: agents have taken people—both citizens and non-citizens—from their homes and from the streets. In detention centers, detainees have been denied access to worship, legal representation, and medical care, creating conditions that are deeply dehumanizing and [deadly](#). In short, this new measure would allow Congress to spend \$70 billion in new funding for ICE and CBP through 2035, without ensuring meaningful reforms or accountability for agencies engaged in a pattern of aggressive immigration enforcement in our communities. The reconciliation procedure also bypasses the annual appropriations process, which has historically produced bipartisan compromise, and removes opportunities for lawmakers to find common ground.

Grounded in our faith commitments, we urge you to reconsider this misplaced measure which will cause further harm to our communities and fails to deliver for struggling families. We ask that you vote no on this reconciliation bill.

CC:

The Honorable Chuck Grassley, Chair, Senate Judiciary Committee

The Honorable Dick Durbin, Ranking Member, Senate Judiciary Committee

The Honorable Rand Paul, Chair, Senate Homeland Security Committee

The Honorable Gary Peters, Ranking Member, Senate Homeland Security Committee

The Honorable Andrew Garbarino, Chairman, House Homeland Security Committee

The Honorable Bennie Thompson, Ranking Member, House Homeland Security Committee

The Honorable Jim Jordan, Chairman, House Judiciary Committee

The Honorable Jamie Raskin, Ranking Member, House Judiciary Committee

Sincerely,

## National Organizations

Adorers of the Blood of Christ US Region JPIC Office  
Alliance of Baptists  
American Friends Service Committee (AFSC)  
Association of United States Catholic Priests, current Secretary  
Baptist Joint Committee for Religious Liberty  
Bend the Arc: Jewish Action  
Black Workers for Justice  
Church of the Brethren, Office of Peacebuilding and Policy  
Church World Service  
Congregation of Our Lady of Charity of the Good Shepherd, U.S. Region  
Cooperative Baptist Fellowship  
Council on American-Islamic Relations (CAIR)  
Dominican Sisters of Peace  
Dominican Sisters of Sparkill  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America  
Faith in Action Network  
Faith in Public Life Action  
Faithful America  
FaithWorks  
Franciscan Action Network  
Franciscan Sisters of Little Falls MN  
Franciscan Sisters of the Sacred Heart  
Friends Committee on National Legislation  
Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart  
HIAS  
Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters, USA-JPIC  
Interfaith Action for Human Rights  
Jesuit Refugee Service USA  
Kirva  
Latino Christian National Network  
Maryknoll Office for Global Concerns  
Maryknoll Sisters  
Mennonite Central Committee U.S.  
Muslim Public Affairs Council (MPAC)  
National Advocacy Center of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd  
National Council of Jewish Women  
NETWORK Lobby for Catholic Social Justice  
Network of Jewish Human Service Agencies

Pax Christi USA  
Reconstructing Judaism  
Religious of the Sacred Heart of Mary - Eastern American Area  
School Sisters of Notre Dame Collective Investment Fund  
School Sisters of Notre Dame, Central Pacific Province  
Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati  
Sisters of Loretto/ Loretto Community  
Sisters of Mercy of the Americas – Justice Team  
Sisters of St Joseph  
Sisters of St. Joseph of Peace  
Sisters of the Holy Spirit and Mary Immaculate  
Sojourners  
T'ruah: The Rabbinic Call for Human Rights  
Union for Reform Judaism  
Unitarian Universalist Association  
Unitarian Universalist Refugee & Immigrant Services & Education  
Unitarian Universalist Service Committee  
Unitarian Universalists for a Just Economic Community  
Unitarian Universalists for Social Justice  
United Church of Christ  
United Women in Faith  
United Women in Faith  
We Choose Welcome  
Williamsburg Unitarian Universalists

## **State & Local Organizations**

### **Alaska**

Turnagain UMC, Anchorage AK (Anchorage)

### **Arizona**

Good Neighbor Interfaith Coalition (Tucson)  
Green Valley/Sahuarita Samaritans (Sahuarita)  
Kino Border Initiative  
Saint Andrew's Episcopal Church (Tucson)  
St. Mark's Presbyterian Church (Tucson)

### **California**

Beebe Memorial Cathedral (Oakland)

Berkeley Friends Church (Berkeley)  
Clayton Valley Presbyterian Church (Clayton)  
Dominican Sisters of Mission San Jose  
Multifaith Voices for Peace & Justice  
Unitarian Universalist Church of Berkeley Social Justice Council (Kensington)  
Unitarian Universalist Justice Ministry of California  
Yolo Interfaith Immigration Network (Woodland)

### **Colorado**

Faith Table Colorado Springs (Colorado Springs)  
Grand Valley Peace & Justice (Grand Junction)  
Interfaith Immigration Network  
Jewish Family Service of Colorado  
St. Paul's Episcopal Church (Fort Collins)

### **Florida**

Micah Solidarity Project of NE Florida (Jacksonville)  
Pax Christi Florida

### **Georgia**

Georgia Interfaith Public Policy Center (Atlanta)

### **Idaho**

Boise Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (Boise)

### **Illinois**

Christ the Servant Catholic Church, Peace and Social Justice Committee (Woodridge)  
Coalition for Spiritual and Public Leadership (CSPL)  
Glencoe Union Church (Glencoe)  
Pax Christi Illinois  
University Church (UCC and Disciples of Christ) (Chicago)

### **Iowa**

Escucha Mi Voz Iowa  
Franciscan Peace Center, Clinton, Iowa  
Sisters of St. Francis (Clinton)

### **Maryland**

Bend the Arc: Jewish Action - Maryland  
Grace UCC Frederick, Maryland (Frederick)

National Council of Jewish Women, Maryland  
Unitarian Universalist Legislative Ministry of Maryland

### **Massachusetts**

Sisters of St. Joseph Boston (Brighton)

### **Michigan**

Berrien Unitarian Universalist Fellowship (St. Joseph)

BSIN (St. Joseph)

Community Unitarian Universalists in Brighton (Brighton)

Edgewood United UCC Racial Justice Ministry Team (East Lansing)

Michigan Multifaith Clergy Rapid Response

Unitarian Universalist Congre of Gran Traverse, Social Justice Action Team (Traverse City)

ZK Consulting Intl (Coloma)

### **Minnesota**

Minnesota Unitarian Universalist Social Justice Alliance (MUUSJA)

### **Missouri**

Episcopal Church of the Redeemer, Kansas City, MO (Kansas City)

UU Church of Columbia Missouri (Columbia)

Eliot Unitarian Universalist Chapel (Kirkwood)

### **Nebraska**

Notre Dame Leadership Team

### **New Jersey**

Faith in New Jersey

Morristown UU Fellowship and UU Faith Action NJ

### **New Mexico**

NM Comunidades en Accion y de Fe (NM CAFe)

### **New York**

Church Women United in New York State

Dominican Sisters of Hope

Pax Christi New York State

Sisters of Charity of St. Vincent de Paul of New York

Sisters of St. Joseph, Brentwood NY (Brentwood)

Sisters of St. Joseph of Rochester (Rochester)  
The Interfaith Center of New York (New York City)

### **North Carolina**

Jewish Family Services of Greater Charlotte (Charlotte)  
Jewish Family Services of Greensboro (Greensboro)

### **North Dakota**

Hope 4 All UHM Interfaith Community (Fargo)

### **Ohio**

Sisters of Charity of Cincinnati (Cincinnati)  
Ursuline Sisters of Cleveland (Cleveland)

### **Pennsylvania**

Jewish Family & Children's Service of Greater Philadelphia (Philadelphia)  
Jewish Family and Community Services of Pittsburgh (Pittsburgh)  
Pittsburgh Area Pax Christi (Pittsburgh)  
Royersford Baptist Church (Royersford)  
Sisters of the Humility of Mary  
Sisters of Saint Joseph of Philadelphia

### **Tennessee**

Tennessee Unitarian Universalist Community Action Network

### **Texas**

Hope Border Institute (El Paso)  
MABC (Dallas)  
Texas Unitarian Universalist Justice Ministry (TXUUJM)

### **Virginia**

Virginia Interfaith Center for Public Policy

### **Washington**

Church Council of Greater Seattle (Seattle)  
Faith Action Network  
First Congregational United Church of Christ  
Jewish Coalition for Immigrant Justice NW (Seattle)  
Jewish Family Service Seattle (Seattle)  
Pax Christi Pacific Northwest

Seabold United Methodist Church (Bainbridge Island)

**Washington, DC**

Cleveland Park Congregational UCC

Congregation Action Network

Foundry UMC, DC

JAMAAT - Jews and Muslims and Allies Acting Together

Luther Place Memorial Church

Lutheran Social Services of the National Capital Area

**Wisconsin**

Olympia Brown UU Church Social Justice Committee (Racine)

Winnebago Friends Worship Group (Quaker) (Appleton)