

LEGISLATIVE REPORT
111TH CONGRESS FIRST SESSION- INTERIM

United States Conference of Catholic Bishops
Office of Government Relations
October, 2009

This Page Intentionally Left Blank

LEGISLATIVE REPORT
111th Congress First Session Interim
TABLE OF CONTENTS

I. PRO-LIFE	5
Abortion Alternatives	5
Assistance for crisis pregnancies, informed consent, and adoption assistance	5
Abortion Funding	5
Freedom of Choice Act.....	5
Population Control – Organizations that Perform Abortions or Engage in Abortion Advocacy (Mexico City Policy)	5
Population Control – United Nations Population Fund (Kemp-Kasten).....	6
Use of Public Funds for Abortion (Hyde Amendment).....	6
Abstinence Education	8
Cloning	8
Conscience Clause for Health Care Organizations	9
Abortion.....	9
Contraception	9
Health Care	10
Children’s Health Insurance Program (CHIP).....	10
Health Care Reform	11
International Aid	12
HIV/ AIDS	12
Stem Cell Research	13
II. MIGRATION AND REFUGEE SERVICES	16
Children	16
Appropriations for the Treatment of Unaccompanied Alien Children.....	16
Eligibility of Immigrant Children for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)	16
Legalization of Undocumented Children.....	17
Healthcare and Immigration	17
Immigration Enforcement and Control	19
Border Fencing.....	19
E-Verify System	20
Legal Immigration System	22
Family Based Legal Immigration System Reforms.....	22
Religious Worker Visas.....	22
Treatment of Widows and Orphans.....	24

Legalization	25
Legalization of Undocumented Children	25
Legalization of Undocumented Seasonal Agricultural Workers	25
Refugees	25
Admission of Afghan Special Immigrants	25
Appropriations for Refugee Admissions and Overseas Refugee Assistance for Fiscal Year 2009	26
Appropriations for Supplemental Overseas Refugee Assistance for Fiscal Year 2009	27
Appropriations for Refugee Admissions and Overseas Refugee Assistance for Fiscal Year 2010	27
Appropriations for Refugee Resettlement for Fiscal Year 2009	28
Appropriations for Refugee Resettlement for Fiscal Year 2010	28
Reforms in the Refugee Admissions and Resettlement	29
III. MARRIAGE AND FAMILY POLICY	30
Definition of Spouse	30
Family and Medical Leave	30
Discrimination Based on Sexuality	31
Employment	31
Hate Crimes	31
Employee Benefits	34
Federal Employee Benefits	34
Social Security	35
Family Policy	36
Family Based Legal Immigration System Reforms	36
IV. INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE AND PEACE	37
Africa	37
Political Stabilization and Peace Keeping	37
Foreign Assistance	38
Agriculture and Food Aid	38
Global Health Investment for AIDS, TB and Malaria prevention	39
Foreign Assistance Reform	40
Global Climate Change	40
Human Rights	41
Torture	41
Indiscriminate Weapons	41
International Debt Relief	42
Iraq/Afghanistan	43

Israeli - Palestinian Peace..... 43
Nuclear Weapons 44
Trade 45
V. EDUCATION 46
 Appropriations 46
 Education Appropriations 46
 DC Scholarships 47
 Funding for Student and Teacher Services at Non-Public Schools..... 48
VI. DOMESTIC SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT..... 49
 Environment..... 49
 Clean Energy Jobs 49
 Health Care..... 49
 Health Insurance..... 51
 State Children’s Health Insurance Program (SCHIP)..... 51
 Housing 51
VII.COMMUNICATIONS 53
 Low Power FM Radio..... 53

This Page Intentionally Left Blank

I. PRO-LIFE

Abortion Alternatives: Assistance for crisis pregnancies, informed consent, and adoption assistance

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 2035 Davis (D-TN)/S. 1032 Casey (D-PA) Pregnant Women Support Act</p> <p>As introduced, this legislation would provide assistance to women in crisis pregnancies without supporting access to abortion. In addition to other provisions this legislation would assist pro-life pregnancy centers, require informed consent at abortion clinics, codify the unborn child regulation in SCHIP, and expand the adoption credit.</p>	<p>House 4/22/09: H.R. 2035 was introduced and referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Education and Labor, and Agriculture.</p> <p>Senate 5/13/09: S. 1032 was introduced and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.</p>	USCCB supports this legislation.	Lobbying Letters Statement Action Alert

Abortion Funding: Freedom of Choice Act (FOCA)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>Boxer (D-CA)/Nadler (D-NY) The Freedom of Choice Act</p> <p>As introduced in the previous Congress, this legislation would have prohibited any state or federal restrictions on abortion, including restrictions on public funding of abortion.</p>	As of this writing this legislation has not yet been introduced.	USCCB opposes this legislation.	Lobbying Statement

Abortion Funding: Population Control – Organizations that Perform Abortions or Engage in Abortion Advocacy (Mexico City Policy)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 3081 Lowey (D-NY)/ S.1434 Leahy (D-VT) Department of State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2010</p> <p>As passed by the House of Representatives, H.R. 3081 would maintain current law allowing the President to invoke the “Mexico City Policy,” which permits the President to bar the provision of U.S. funds to foreign</p>	<p>House 6/26/09: House Committee on Appropriations reported H.R. 3081 as an original measure, (H. Rept. 111-187).</p> <p>7/9/09: House passed H.R. 3081 by a vote of 318 - 106 (Roll no. 525).</p>	USCCB has no formal position on the overall legislation. However, the USCCB supports preservation of the Mexico City Policy.	Lobbying Letters

I. Pro- Life (Continued)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>organizations that promote or perform abortions as a method of family planning.</p> <p>As reported by the Senate Committee on Appropriations, S. 1324 would prohibit the President from invoking the “Mexico City Policy”.</p>	<p>Senate 7/9/09: Senate Committee on Appropriations reported S. 1434 as an original measure With written report (S. Rept. No. 111-44).</p>		

Abortion Funding: Population Control – Coercive Abortion (Kemp-Kasten)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 3081 Lowey (D-NY)/ S.1434 Leahy (D-VT) Department of State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2010</p> <p>As passed by the House of Representatives and reported by the Senate Committee on Appropriations, this measure would maintain current “Kemp-Kasten” language prohibiting the use of U.S. funds for any organization or program which the President determines supports or participates in the management of a program of coercive abortion or involuntary sterilization.</p> <p>In addition, the measure would appropriate \$50 million for the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA), which the president has ruled is not violation of the “Kemp-Kasten” language.</p>	<p>House 6/26/09: House Committee on Appropriations reported H.R. 3081 as an original measure, (H. Rept. 111-187).</p> <p>7/9/09: House passed H.R. 3081 by a vote of 318 - 106 (Roll no. 525).</p> <p>Senate 7/9/09: Senate Committee on Appropriations reported S. 1434 as an original measure with written report (S. Rept. No. 111-44).</p>	<p>USCCB has no formal position on the overall legislation. However, USCCB supports maintaining “Kemp-Kasten.” However, USCCB disagrees with the President’s ruling that UNFPA is not in violation of the “Kemp-Kasten” language.</p>	<p>Lobbying Letters</p>

Abortion Funding: Use of Public Funds for Abortion (Hyde Amendment, Dornan Amendment, Smith Amendment)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 3293 Obey (D-WI) Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010</p> <p>As passed by the House of Representatives and reported by the Senate Committee on Appropriations, this appropriations measure would retain the Hyde Amendment. The Hyde Amendment provides that none of the funds in the Act, or in any trust fund appropriated in the Act, may be</p>	<p>House 7/22/09: House Committee on Appropriations reported H.R. 3293 as an original measure, H. Rept. 111-220</p> <p>7/24/09: House rejected an amendment that barred funds from being made available for planned parenthood for voluntary family planning by a vote</p>	<p>USCCB has no formal position on the overall legislation. However, USCCB supports the prohibition of public funds for abortion.</p>	<p>Lobbying Letters Action Alert</p>

I. Pro- Life (Continued)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>expended for an abortion (or a trust fund including abortion) unless the woman's life is in danger or the pregnancy was the result of rape or incest.</p>	<p>of 183-247. 7/24/09: House passed H.R. 3293 by a vote of 264-153. (Roll No. 646). Senate 8/4/09: Senate Committee on Appropriations. Reported H.R. 3293 with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report (S. Rept. No. 111-66).</p>		
<p>H.R. 3170 Serrano (D-NY) Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2010</p> <p>As passed by the House of Representatives, H.R. 3170 would repeal the longstanding "Dornan Amendment" language that prohibits public funding for abortions within the District of Columbia. The "Dornan Amendment" language, which this bill rejects, provides that none of the funds in the Act may be expended for an abortion unless the woman's life is in danger or the pregnancy was a result of rape or incest.</p>	<p>House 7/7/09: House Committee on Appropriations rejected an Amendment that would prohibit any District of Columbia funds, including locally raised funds, from being used for abortions by a vote of 26-33. 7/10/09: House Committee on Appropriations reported H.R. 3170 as an original measure, (H. Rept. 111-202). 7/16/09: The House passed H.R. 3170 by a vote of 219 - 208, 1 Present (Roll no. 571).</p>	<p>USCCB has no formal position on the overall legislation. However, USCCB opposes the change in language that permits public funding for abortions and therefore opposes final passage unless the Dornan Amendment is restored.</p>	<p>Lobbying Letters Action Alert</p>
<p>S. 1432 Durbin (D-IL) Financial Services Appropriations Act, 2010</p> <p>As reported by the Senate Committee on Appropriations, this bill contains the same problem as the House bill regarding funding for DC abortions (see above); however, it also removes the Smith Amendment, which contains longstanding language that prohibits taxpayer subsidized abortion through the Federal Employee Health Benefits Program (FEHBP).</p>	<p>Senate 7/9/09: Senate Committee on Appropriations reported S.1432 as an original measure (report No. 111-43).</p>	<p>USCCB has no formal position on the overall legislation; however USCCB opposes the change in language that permits public funding for abortions and therefore opposes final passage unless the Dornan and Smith Amendments are restored.</p>	<p>Lobbying Letters Action Alert</p>

I. Pro- Life (Continued)

Abstinence Education

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 3293 Obey (D-WI) Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010</p> <p>As passed by the House, this appropriations bill moves abstinence funding into comprehensive sex education programs, thereby ending funding for abstinence until marriage programs.</p>	<p>House 7/22/09: House Committee on Appropriations reported H.R. 3293 as an original measure, H. Rept. 111-220</p> <p>7/24/09: House rejected an amendment that barred funds from being made available for planned parenthood for voluntary family planning by a vote of 183-247.</p> <p>7/24/09: House passed H.R. 3293 by a vote of 264-153. (Roll No. 646).</p> <p>Senate 8/4/09: Senate Committee on Appropriations. Reported H.R. 3293 with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report (S. Rept. No. 111-66).</p>	<p>USCCB has no formal position on the overall legislation. However, USCCB opposes the stripping of abstinence education.</p>	<p>Lobbying Letter</p>

Cloning

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>S. 1435 Brownback (R-KS) Human-Animal Hybrid Prohibition Act of 2009</p> <p>As introduced, this bill would prohibit the creation of part human, part animal hybrid embryos.</p>	<p>Senate 7/9/09: S. 1435 was introduced and referred to the Committee on the Judiciary.</p>	<p>USCCB supports this legislation</p>	<p>Lobbying Letter</p>
<p>H.R. 1050 Stupak (D-MI) Human Cloning Prohibition Act of 2009</p> <p>As introduced, this bill would prohibit the cloning of human embryos for any purpose.</p>	<p>House 2/12/09: H.R. 1050 was introduced and referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.</p>	<p>USCCB supports this legislation</p>	<p>Lobbying Letter</p>

I. Pro- Life (Continued)

Conscience Clause for Health Care Organizations: Abortion

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 3293 Obey (D-WI) Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010</p> <p>As passed by the House of Representatives, H.R. 3293 would retain the longstanding “Hyde/Weldon” Conscience Protection language. The “Hyde/Weldon Conscience Protection” language protects “health care entities” against government-sponsored discrimination based on their objection to abortions or abortion referrals.</p>	<p>House 7/22/09: House Committee on Appropriations reported H.R. 3293 as an original measure, H. Rept. 111-220</p> <p>7/24/09: House rejected an amendment that barred funds from being made available for planned parenthood for voluntary family planning by a vote of 183-247.</p> <p>7/24/09: House passed H.R. 3293 by a vote of 264-153. (Roll No. 646).</p> <p>Senate 8/4/09: Senate Committee on Appropriations. Reported H.R. 3293 with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. (S. Rept. No. 111-66).</p>	<p>USCCB has no formal position on the overall legislation. However, USCCB supports the continuation of the “Hyde/Weldon” language.</p>	<p>Lobbying Letters Statements Action Alert</p>

Contraception

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 3293 Obey (D-WI) Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010</p> <p>As passed by the House of Representatives, H.R. 3293 would provide \$317,491,000 for Title X programs, an increase of \$10 million from the previous fiscal year. Title X of the Public Health Service Act is the only federal grant program dedicated solely to providing individuals with comprehensive family planning services and is a primary funding source for Planned Parenthood.</p>	<p>House 7/22/09: House Committee on Appropriations reported H.R. 3293 as an original measure, (H. Rept. 111-220).</p> <p>7/24/09: House rejected an amendment that barred funds from being made available for planned parenthood for voluntary family planning by a vote of 183-247.</p> <p>7/24/09: House passed H.R. 3293 by a vote of 264-153. (Roll No. 646).</p> <p>Senate 8/4/09: Senate Committee on</p>	<p>USCCB has no formal position on the overall legislation.</p>	<p>Lobbying</p>

I. Pro- Life (Continued)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
	Appropriations. Reported H.R. 3293 with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report (S Rept. No. 111-66).		
<p>H.R. 3312 Ryan (D-OH) Preventing Unintended Pregnancies, Reducing the Need for Abortion and Supporting Parents Act</p> <p>As introduced, H.R. 3312 would promote "teen pregnancy prevention" (including contraceptive education), support programs for pregnant women, some of which could expand abortion coverage, and significantly increase funding for Title X (family planning) clinics.</p>	<p>House 7/23/09: H.R. 3312 was introduced and referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Education and Labor, Ways and Means, the Judiciary, and Agriculture.</p>	USCCB opposes	Lobbying Letter
<p>H.R. 463 Slaughter (D-NY)/ S. 21 Reid (D-NV) Prevention First Act</p> <p>As introduced, this legislation would increase funding for Title X (family planning) clinics, expand Medicaid coverage of family planning services, require health care providers to offer emergency contraception and other forms of contraception, and require health insurers to include contraceptive coverage in all benefits packages.</p>	<p>House 1/13/09: H.R. 463 was introduced and referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Education and Labor.</p> <p>Senate 1/6/09: S. 21 was introduced and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions. .</p>	USCCB opposes this legislation.	Monitoring

Health Care: Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP):

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 2 Pallone (D-NJ) Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2010</p> <p>As enacted, this legislation expands coverage under the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP). The reauthorization changed previous law by removing the option to classify the recipient of SCHIP funds as the child rather than the pregnant mother. This will likely result in expanding state funding for abortion under the Medicaid program and removing coverage for undocumented pregnant women.</p>	<p>House 1/13/09: H.R.2 was introduced and referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Education and Labor</p> <p>1/14/09: The House passed H.R. 2 by a vote of 289 - 139 (Roll no. 16).</p> <p>Senate</p>	USCCB generally supported the reauthorization of the program, however supported efforts to preserve a 2002 rule which safeguards public funds from being used for abortion services under state Medicaid programs. The 2002 rule was removed.	Lobbying Letters

I. Pro- Life (Continued)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
	<p>1/29/09: The Senate passed H.R. 2 was passed with an amendment by a vote of 66 - 32 (Record Vote Number: 31).</p> <p>Conference</p> <p>2/4/09: The House agreed to the Senate amendment by a vote of 290 - 135 (Roll No. 50).</p> <p>President</p> <p>2/4/09: H.R.2 was signed and became Public Law No: 111-3.</p>		

Health Care Reform

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 3200 Dingell (D-MI) America's Affordable Health Choices Act of 2009</p> <p>As reported by the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, the House Committee on Ways and Means, and the House Committee on Education and Labor, H.R. 3200 would make comprehensive reforms in the American health care system that would establish minimum insurance plans and expand health care access for the uninsured. Each of the three versions of the bill would provide an option for Americans to participate in a public health insurance plan that would be at least partially subsidized by the federal government for low-income Americans.</p> <p>With respect to abortion, The House Energy and Commerce Committee-approved version of H.R. 3200 would mandate abortion coverage in the bill's public plan. It also would provide conscience protection for those who decline involvement in abortion. The House Energy and Commerce Committee rejected several attempts to include pro-life provisions in the bill during its consideration of the measure. Among the pro-life amendments that the Committee rejected were amendments that would have applied the traditional Hyde Amendments language to federal funding under the Act so federal funds would not subsidize any part of a health plan that includes elective abortions. The Committee rejected</p>	<p>House</p> <p>7/14/09: H.R. 3200 was introduced and Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Education and Labor, Oversight and Government Reform, and the Budget.</p> <p>7/17/09: House Committee on Ways and Means ordered H.R. 3200 to be Reported by a vote of 23 - 18.</p> <p>7/17/09: House Committee on Education and Labor ordered H.R. 3200 to be Reported by a vote of 26 - 22.</p> <p>7/31/09: House Committee on Energy and Commerce ordered H.R. 3200 to be Reported (Amended) by a vote of 31-28.</p> <p>10/14/09: Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Energy and Commerce. H. Rept. 111-299, Part I.</p> <p>10/14/09: Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Ways and Means. H.</p>	<p>USCCB supports health care reform that provides care for all while respecting the life and dignity of all, but believes the bills as approved by the three House committees need significant changes due to violations regarding the sanctity of life.</p>	<p>Lobbying Letter Action Alert</p>

I. Pro- Life (Continued)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
another amendment that would have prohibited any abortion mandates.	Rept. 111-299 , Part II. 10/14/09: Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Education and Labor. H. Rept. 111-299 , Part III.		
S.1679 Harkin (D-IA) Affordable Health Choices Act As reported by the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, this legislation would make comprehensive reforms to the American health care system that would expand health care access for the uninsured. Included in the bill is a requirement that expands Medicaid coverage solely for “family planning” services for some women, as well as mandated abortion coverage. Amendments to prohibit federal funding for abortion, protect state abortion laws, and prohibit federal abortion mandates all failed. An inadequate amendment on conscience protection passed.	Senate 7/15/09: The Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee approved the bill by a vote of 13-10. 9/17/09: Original measure reported to Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions without written report.	USCCB supports health care reform that provides care for all while respecting the life and dignity of all, but believes the bill approved by the Senate HELP committee needs significant changes due to violations regarding the sanctity of life.	Lobbying Letter Action Alert
S.1796: Baucus (D-IA) America's Healthy Future Act As reported by the Senate Finance Committee, this legislation provides for the health insurers to decide if they will cover abortion services. It mandates that at least one plan in its exchange options provides abortion coverage and one plan that does not provide abortion coverage. The act will not override state laws prohibiting or mandating abortion coverage. This act also contains language that states that it will not affect current law on conscience protection.	Senate 7/15/09: The Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee approved the bill by a vote of 13-10. 9/17/09: Original measure reported to Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions without written report.	USCCB supports health care reform that provides care for all while respecting the life and dignity of all, but believes the bill approved by the Senate Finance committee needs significant changes due to violations regarding the sanctity of life.	Lobbying Letter Action Alert

International Aid: HIV/AIDS:

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
H.R. 3081 Lowey (D-NY)/ S. 1434 Leahy (D-VT) Department of State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2010 As passed by the House, H.R. 3081 would appropriate \$5.75 billion for global health investments including AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria	House 6/26/09: House Committee on Appropriations reported H.R. 3081 as an original measure, (H. Rept. 111-187). 7/9/09: H.R. 3081 passed by a vote of 318 -	USCCB has no Formal position on the overall legislation. However, USSCB supported robust funding for morally and culturally responsible programs to combat HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis	Lobbying Testimony

I. Pro- Life (Continued)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>prevention through the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) while preserving politically negotiated language that allows for the participation of Catholic Agencies.</p> <p>As reported by the Senate Committee on Appropriations, S. 1434 would appropriate \$5.359 billion for PEPFAR and also preserves the language allowing for participation of Catholic Agencies.</p>	<p>106 (Roll no. 525).</p> <p>Senate 7/9/09: Senate Committee on Appropriations reported S. 1434 as an original measure With written report (S. Rept. No. 111-44).</p>	and Malaria.	

Stem Cell Research

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>S. 487 Harkin (D-IA) Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act</p> <p>As introduced, this bill would permit the destruction of embryos with federal funds for research purposes.</p>	<p>Senate 2/26/09: S.487 was introduced and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.</p>	USCCB opposes this legislation.	Lobbying
<p>H.R. 873 DeGette (D-CO) Stem Cell Research Enhancement Act of 2009</p> <p>As introduced, amends the Public Health Service Act to require the Secretary of Health and Human Services to conduct and support research that utilizes human embryonic stem cells, regardless of the date on which the stem cells were derived from a human embryo.</p>	<p>House 2/4/09: H.R. 873 was introduced and referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.</p>	USCCB opposes this legislation.	Lobbying
<p>S. 99 Vitter (R-LA) Ethical Stem Cell Research Tax Credit Act</p> <p>As introduced, S. 99 would amend the Internal Revenue Code to allow a tax credit for 30% of qualified stem cell research. It would also define "qualified stem cell research expenses" as expenses for carrying out basic and applied research to develop techniques for the isolation, derivation, production, testing, and human clinical use of stem cells that may result in improved understanding of or treatments for diseases and other adverse health conditions. It would prohibit a tax credit for any research expenses that may involve: (1) the creation of a human embryo for research purposes; (2) the destruction of or discarding of, or risk of injury</p>	<p>Senate 1/6/09: S. 99 was introduced and referred to the Committee on Finance.</p>	USCCB supports this legislation.	Monitoring

I. Pro- Life (Continued)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
to, a human embryo; or (3) the use of any stem cell for prohibited purposes.			
<p>H.R. 877 Forbes (R-VA) Patients First Act of 2009</p> <p>As introduced, H.R. 877 would prioritize funding for clinically beneficial stem cell research that does not harm or destroy human embryos.</p>	<p>House 2/4/09: H.R. 877 was introduced and referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.</p>	USCCB supports this legislation.	Lobbying
<p>H.R. 3293 Obey (D-WI) Labor/HHS/Education Appropriations Act of 2010</p> <p>As passed by the House of Representatives and reported by the Senate Appropriations Committee, this appropriations bill preserves the “Dickey/Wicker Amendment” which prohibits the use of federal funds for the creation of embryos for research purposes.</p>	<p>House 7/22/09: House Committee on Appropriations reported H.R. 3293 as an original measure, (H. Rept. 111-220). 7/24/09: House rejected an amendment that barred funds from being made available for planned parenthood for voluntary family planning by a vote of 183-247. 7/24/09: House passed H.R. 3293 by a vote of 264-153. (Roll No. 646).</p> <p>Senate 8/4/09: Senate Committee on Appropriations reported H.R. 3293 with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report No. 111-66.</p>	USCCB has no formal position on the overall legislation. However, USCCB supports the retention of “Dickey/Wicker.”	Lobbying Letters
<p>H.R. 3293 Obey (D-WI) Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010</p> <p>As passed by the House of Representatives and reported by the Senate Appropriations Committee, This appropriations bill includes funding for the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act (PL 109-129), which authorized \$12 million a year for cord blood collection, storage and a national registry. The House bill provides \$11.983 million in funding for this Act.</p>	<p>House 7/22/09: House Committee on Appropriations reported H.R. 3293 as an original measure, H. Rept. 111-220 7/24/09: House rejected an amendment that barred funds from being made available for planned parenthood for voluntary family planning by a vote of 183-247. 7/24/09: House passed H.R. 3293 by a vote of 264-153. (Roll No. 646).</p> <p>Senate 8/4/09: Senate Committee on Appropriations reported H.R. 3293 with an</p>	USCCB has no formal position on the overall legislation. However, USCCB supports the full funding of the Stem Cell Therapeutic and Research Act.	Lobbying Letter

I. Pro- Life (Continued)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
	amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report No. 111-66 .		

II. MIGRATION AND REFUGEE SERVICES

Children: Appropriations for the Treatment of Unaccompanied Alien Children

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 2346 Obey (D-WI) Supplemental Appropriations Act, 2009</p> <p>As enacted, H.R. 2346 appropriated \$82 MILLION for the Office of Refugee Resettlement to meet the needs of unaccompanied alien children and child trafficking victims who are under ORR's care.</p>	<p>House 5/14/09: House Committee on Appropriations reported H.R. 2346 as an original measure (H. Rept. 111-105) 5/14/09: House passed H.R. 2346 by a vote of 368 - 60 (Roll no. 265).</p> <p>Senate 5/21/09: Senate passed H.R. 2346 with an amendment by a vote of 86 - 3 (Record Vote Number: 202).</p> <p>Conference 6/16/09: House agreed to the conference report (H. Rept. 111-151) by a vote of 226 - 202 (Roll no. 348). 6/18/09: Senate agreed to conference report by a vote of 91 - 5. (Record Vote Number: 210).</p> <p>President 6/24/09: H.R. 2346 was signed and became Public Law No: 111-32.</p>	USCCB had no position on the underlying bill but supported the appropriation for unaccompanied alien children and child trafficking victims.	Lobbying Letters

Children: Eligibility of Immigrant Children for the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 2 Palone (D-NJ) Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009</p> <p>As enacted into law, H.R. 2 gives states the option of providing SCHIP and Medicaid benefits to legal immigrant children and pregnant women without requiring that they reside in the United States for five years or more; repeals the requirement under current law that the income and resources of an immigrant's sponsor be deemed to be that of the immigrant for the purposes of determining the immigrant's eligibility for</p>	<p>House 1/13/09: H.R. 2 introduced and referred to various House committees 1/14/09: House passed H.R. 2 by a vote of 289-139 (House Roll No. 216).</p> <p>Senate 1/29/09: Senate passed H.R. 2346 by a vote of 66-32 (Passed Senate with an amendment by a vote of 86 - 3</p>	USCCB supported the provisions in the bill expanding immigrant eligibility for the CHIP program.	Letters Lobbying

II. MIGRATION AND REFUGEE SERVICES (Continued)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
SCHIP and Medicaid; and relieves sponsors of affidavit of support obligations with regard to Medicaid and SCHIP benefits.	<p>(Senate Vote Number 31).</p> <p>Conference 2/4/09: House agreed to Senate amendments to H.R. 2346 by a vote of 290-135 (House Roll No. 50).</p> <p>President 6/24/09: H.R. 2 was signed and became Public Law No: 111-32.</p>		

Children: Legalization of Undocumented Children

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
H.R. 1751 Berman (D-CA)/S. 729 Durbin (D-IL) Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act	(For a complete description and Legislative History of the act please see the section "Legalization: Legalization of Undocumented Children")	USCCB helped initiate this legislation.	Letters Lobbying

Healthcare and Immigration

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
H.R. 3200 Dingell (D-MI) America's Affordable Health Choices Act of 2009 As reported by the House Committees on Energy and Commerce, Education and Labor, and Ways and Means, H.R. 3200 would bar both undocumented aliens and most nonimmigrants from receiving health care benefits pursuant to the bill or from having federal funds spent on their behalf under the bill. The bill would, however, include nonimmigrants, undocumented aliens, and legal immigrants in the list of persons who would either have to purchase health insurance or face a tax penalty for not having done so. The measure would H.R. 3200 would leave in place current law regarding the eligibility of aliens for Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) unchanged.	<p>House 7/14/09: H.R. 3200 was introduced and Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Education and Labor, Oversight and Government Reform, and the Budget.</p> <p>7/17/09: House Committee on Ways and Means ordered H.R. 3200 to be Reported by a vote of 23 - 18.</p> <p>7/17/09: House Committee on Education and Labor ordered H.R. 3200 to be Reported by a vote of 26 - 22.</p>	The USCCB has no position on the overall Legislation. However, Health Care reform must support all legal immigrants, regardless of income level, to participate in any new health-care system and oppose any ban that would prevent them for participating for five years. Support the inclusion of pregnant women and children, regardless of their legal status.	Lobbying Letter Action Alert

II. MIGRATION AND REFUGEE SERVICES (Continued)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
	<p>7/31/09: House Committee on Energy and Commerce ordered H.R. 3200 to be Reported (Amended) by a vote of 31-28.</p> <p>10/14/09: Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Energy and Commerce. H. Rept. 111-299, Part I.</p> <p>10/14/09: Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Ways and Means. H. Rept. 111-299, Part II.</p> <p>10/14/09: Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Education and Labor. H. Rept. 111-299, Part III.</p>		
<p>S.1679 Harkin (D-IA) Affordable Health Choices Act</p> <p>As reported by the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, all citizens or nationals of the United States and all alien lawfully admitted to the United States for permanent residence would be eligible to participate in a new health insurance exchange that would be created by the bill. The measure would bar illegal immigrants from receiving affordability credits but permit lawfully residing immigrants who meet income limits and are not eligible for employer-based coverage to receive them.</p> <p>It would prohibit federal health care related payments for undocumented immigrants.</p>	<p>Senate</p> <p>7/15/09: The Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee approved the bill by a vote of 13-10.</p> <p>9/17/09: Original measure reported to Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions without written report.</p>	<p>The USCCB has no position on the overall Legislation. However, Health Care reform must support all legal immigrants, regardless of income level, to participate in any new health-care system and oppose any ban that would prevent them for participating for five years. Support the inclusion of pregnant women and children, regardless of their legal status.</p>	<p>Lobbying Letter Action Alert</p>
<p>S.1796 Baucus (D-MT) America's Healthy Future Act</p> <p>As reported by the Senate Committee on Finance, S.1796 would mandate that legal immigrants (along with U.S. citizens) either purchase health insurance or be subject to a tax penalty; exempt illegal immigrants from the mandate to purchase health insurance; bar illegal immigrants from purchasing health insurance in state or federal health insurance exchanges; permit illegal immigrants to purchase health insurance in the</p>	<p>Senate</p> <p>10/19/09: Committee on Finance reported S. 1796 as an original measure with a written report No. 111-89. Additional and Minority views filed.</p>	<p>The USCCB has no position on the overall Legislation. However, Health Care reform must support all legal immigrants, regardless of income level, to participate in any new health-care system and oppose any ban that would prevent them for participating for five years. Support the inclusion of</p>	<p>Lobbying Letter Action Alert</p>

II. MIGRATION AND REFUGEE SERVICES (Continued)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
exchanges for their U.S. citizen or LPR children; permit legal immigrants to receive affordability tax credits to help them pay for health insurance without regard to the five-year waiting period under the law for Medicaid and the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP); bar illegal immigrants from receiving affordability tax credits to help them purchase health insurance; bar legal residents from receiving affordability tax credits to help them purchase health insurance if their legal status will expire within a year; exempt illegal immigrants from the calculation of the Federal Poverty Level for the purposes of the bill; and impose an immigration status verification regime on all persons --- citizens and noncitizens, alike -- seeking to purchase health insurance.		pregnant women and children, regardless of their legal status.	

Immigration Enforcement and Control: Border Fencing

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 2892 Price(D-NC)/S. 1298 Byrd (D-WV) Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2010</p> <p>As presented to the President, Section 560 of H.R. 2892 would impose a number of restrictions and mandates on the Administration with regard to fencing being constructed along the U.S. border with Mexico. More specifically, Section 560 of the Senate-passed version of H.R. 2892 would require that construction of the mandated 700 miles of fencing be completed by December 31, 2010; provide that fencing that does not effectively restrain pedestrian traffic (such as vehicle barriers and virtual fencing) may not be used to meet the 700-mile fence requirement under the law; and provide that funds for fence construction may not be withheld for failure to comply with consultation requirements.</p> <p>As passed by the House, H.R. 2892 does not contain any provisions relating to fencing along the U.S. Mexico border..</p>	<p>House 6/16/09: House Appropriations Committee reported H.R. 2892 as an original measure (H. Rept. 111-157) 6/24/09: House passed H.R. 2892 by a vote of 389-37 (House Roll No. 450).</p> <p>Senate 6/18/09: Senate Appropriations Committee reported S. 1298 as an original measure (S. Rept. 111-31) 7/9/09: Senate took up H.R. 2892 in lieu of S. 1298. 7/8/09: Senate agreed to DeMint Amendment 1399, which added Section 560 to the bill, by a vote of 54-44 (Record Vote No. 220) 7/9/09: Senate passed H.R. 2892 by a vote of 84-6 (Record Vote No. 229)</p> <p>Conference</p>	USCCB has no position on the underlying legislation. However, it opposes Section 560, which contains mandates with regard to the construction of border fencing.	Floor Flyers Lobbying Letters

II. MIGRATION AND REFUGEE SERVICES (Continued)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
	<p>10/13/09: Conference report H. Rept. 111-298</p> <p>10/15/09: House agreed to the conference report by a vote of: 307 - 114 (Roll no. 784).</p> <p>10/20/09: Senate agreed to conference report by a vote of: 79 - 19. Record Vote Number: 323.</p> <p>10/22/09: Presented to President.</p>		

Immigration Enforcement and Control: E-Verify System

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 1 Obey (D-WI) American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009</p> <p>As enacted into law, H.R. 1 does not contain provisions mandating that recipients of funds under the Act use the E-Verify Employment Eligibility Verification System.</p> <p>As passed by the House, H.R. 1 would have extended the E-Verify Program through 2016 and required all entities receiving stimulus money to use the E-Verify system to verify the work eligibility of their employees. Both provisions were dropped from the final bill during House/Senate conference committee deliberations.</p>	<p>House</p> <p>1/26/09: H.R. 1 introduced in the House of Representatives</p> <p>1/28/09: House passed H.R. 1 by a vote of 244-188 (House Roll No. 46).</p> <p>Senate</p> <p>2/10/09: Senate passed H.R. 2346 by a vote of 61-37 (Senate Vote Number 61).</p> <p>Conference</p> <p>2/12/09: Conference report filed (H. Rept. 111-16)</p> <p>2/13/09: House agreed to conference report by a vote of 246-182 (House Roll No. 70).</p> <p>2/13/09: Senate agreed to conference report by a vote of 60-38 (Senate Vote Number 64).</p> <p>President</p> <p>2/17/09: H.R. 1 was signed and became Public Law No: 111-13.</p>	USCCB took no position on the underlying legislation. However, it opposed the E-Verify provisions in the House-passed version of the measure.	Letters Lobbying
<p>H.R. 2892 Price/S. 1298 (D-NC)/Byrd (D-WV) Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2010</p>	<p>House</p> <p>6/16/09: House Appropriations Committee reported H.R. 2892 as an original</p>	USCCB has no position on the underlying legislation. However, it opposes Sections 546, 547, and	Letters Floor Flyers Lobbying

II. MIGRATION AND REFUGEE SERVICES (Continued)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>As enacted, H.R. 2892 contains a number of provisions regarding to the E-Verify Electronic Employment Eligibility Verification System. Section 546 of the Senate-passed version of the bill would permanently extend authorization for the system. Section 547 of the Senate-passed version of the bill would mandate that all federal contractors use the system. And Section 576 of the Senate-passed version of the bill would permit employers making use of the system to use it to verify the eligibility of existing employees, not just new-hires.</p> <p>As passed by the House, H.R. 2892 would extend the E-Verify system for two years. However, it does not contain the Senate-passed bill's provisions relating to contractor use and verification of the employment status of existing employees.</p>	<p>6/24/09: measure (H. Rept. 111-157) House passed H.R. 2892 by a vote of 389-37 (House Roll No. 450).</p> <p>Senate 6/18/09: Senate Appropriations Committee reported S. 1298 as an original measure (S. Rept. 111-31) 7/9/09: Senate took up H.R. 2892 in lieu of S. 1298. 7/8/09: Senate agreed to Sessions Amendment 1371, which added Sections 546 and 547 to the bill, by a voice vote after failing to table the amendment by a vote of 44-53 (Senate Vote Number 219) 7/9/09: Senate agreed to the Grassley amendment 1415 to H.R. 2892, which added Section 576 to the bill, by a voice vote. 7/9/09: Senate passed H.R. 2892 by a vote of 84-6 (Senate Vote Number 229)</p> <p>Conference 10/13/09: Conference report H. Rept. 111-298 10/15/09: House agreed to the conference report by a vote of: 307 - 114 (Roll no. 784). 10/20/09: Senate agreed to conference report by a vote of: 79 - 19. Record Vote Number: 323.</p> <p>President 10/28/09: H.R. 2892 was signed by the President and became Public Law No: 111-83.</p>	<p>576 of the Senate-passed version of H.R. 2892 that would permanently authorize the E-Verify System, mandate its use by federal contractors, and permit employers to use the system to verify the work eligibility of existing employees.</p>	

II. MIGRATION AND REFUGEE SERVICES (Continued)

Legal Immigration System: Family Based Legal Immigration System Reforms

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>S. 1085 Menendez (D-NJ) Reuniting Families Act</p> <p>As introduced, S. 1085 would reorder the family immigration preference system to help eliminate backlogs in family immigration priority dates and enhance the ability of family-based immigrants to be admitted to the United States.</p>	<p>House 5/20/09: S. 1085 introduced and referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary.</p>	USCCB supports S. 1085	Letter Press Release
<p>H.R. 2709 Honda (D-CA) Reuniting Families Act</p> <p>As introduced, Title I of H.R. 2709 would reorder the family immigration preference system to help eliminate backlogs in family immigration priority dates and enhance the ability of family-based immigrants to be admitted to the United States.</p> <p>Title II of H.R. 2709 would provide marriage-like immigration benefits to the “permanent partners” of homosexual citizens, asylees, refugees, parolees, nonimmigrants, or permanent residents.</p>	<p>House 6/11/09: H.R. 2709 introduced and referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.</p>	USCCB opposes Title II of H.R. 2709	Letter Press Release

Legal Immigration System: Religious Worker Visas

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 1127 Lofgren (D-CA) Extension of Non-minister Religious Worker Visa Program</p> <p>As enacted, H.R. 1127 extended the Special Immigrant Non-Minister Religious Worker Visa program through September 30, 2009.</p>	<p>House 2/23/09: H.R. 1127 introduced and referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary 3/4/09: House passed H.R. 1127 by a voice vote</p> <p>Senate 3/11/09: Senate passed H.R. 1127 by unanimous consent</p> <p>President 3/20/09: H.R. 1127 was signed by the</p>	USCCB helped initiate this legislation	Lobbying Letter

II. MIGRATION AND REFUGEE SERVICES (Continued)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
	President and became Public Law No: 111-9		
<p>H.R. 2892 Price/S. 1298 (D-NC)/Byrd (D-WV) Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2010</p> <p>As enacted, Section 571(a) of H.R. 2892 would extend the Special Immigrant Non-Minister Religious Worker Visa program through September 30, 2012.</p>	<p>House 6/16/09: House Appropriations Committee reported H.R. 2892 as an original measure (H. Rept. 111-157) 6/24/09: House passed H.R. 2892 by a vote of 389-37 (House Roll No. 450).</p> <p>Senate 6/18/09: Senate Appropriations Committee reported S. 1298 as an original measure (S. Rept. 111-31) 7/9/09: Senate took up H.R. 2892 in lieu of S. 1298. 7/8/09: Senate agreed to Hatch Amendment 1328, which added Section 571 to the bill, by a voice vote 7/9/09: Senate passed H.R. 2892 by a vote of 84-6 (Senate Vote Number 229)</p> <p>Conference 10/13/09: Conference report H. Rept. 111-298 10/15/09: House agreed to the conference report by a vote of: 307 - 114 (Roll no. 784). 10/20/09: Senate agreed to conference report by a vote of: 79 - 19. Record Vote Number: 323.</p> <p>President 10/28/09: H.R. 2892 was signed by the President and became Public Law No: 111-83.</p>	USCCB helped initiate this legislation	Lobbying Letter Floor Flyer

II. MIGRATION AND REFUGEE SERVICES (Continued)

Legal Immigration System: Treatment of Widows and Orphans

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 2892 Price/S. 1298 (D-NC)/Byrd (D-WV) Department of Homeland Security Appropriations Act, 2010</p> <p>As passed by the Senate, Section 571(c) of H.R. 2892 would protect widows, widowers and orphans of deceased U.S. citizens and legal permanent residents who are in the family immigration system by allowing widows, widowers and orphans, to immigrate on a family-based visa despite the death of a petitioner.</p> <p>The House passed version of the Homeland Security appropriations bill does not contain any provisions relating to family-based immigration.</p>	<p>(For a full Legislative History Please see “Legal Immigration System: Religious Worker Visas” Section above.)</p> <p>House 6/24/09: House passed H.R. 2892 by a vote of 389-37 (House Roll No. 450).</p> <p>Senate 7/9/09: Senate passed H.R. 2892 by a vote of 84-6 (Senate Vote Number 229)</p>	USCCB helped initiate the Hatch amendment to H.R. 2892	Lobbying Letter Floor Flyer
<p>S. 1247 Menendez (D-NJ) Orphans, Widows, and Widowers Protection Act</p> <p>As introduced, S. 1247 would revise the definition of "immediate relative" to permit a widow or widower of a U.S. citizen to seek permanent resident status if married less than two years by showing through a preponderance of the evidence that the marriage was entered into in good faith and not solely to obtain an immigration benefit. The measure also would define “immediate relative” to include an alien who was the child or parent of a U.S. citizen at the time of the citizen's death if the alien parent files a petition within two years after such date or the alien child files a petition prior to reaching 21 years old. Finally, the measure would provide relief for orphans and spouses regarding petitions for immediate relative status, parole eligibility, permanent resident status adjustment, and processing of immigrant visas.</p>	<p>House 6/11/09: S. 1247 introduced and referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary.</p>	USCCB supports S. 1247	Lobbying

II. MIGRATION AND REFUGEE SERVICES (Continued)

Legalization: Legalization of Undocumented Children

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 1751 Berman (D-CA)/S. 729 Durbin (D-IL) Development, Relief and Education for Alien Minors (DREAM) Act</p> <p>The DREAM Act would allow undocumented children who entered the United States before age 16 and who have lived here at least five years to gain legal status and eventual citizenship if they attend college or join the military.</p>	<p>House 3/26/09: H.R. 1751 introduced and referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary and House Committee on Education and Labor</p> <p>Senate 3/26/09: S. 729 introduced and referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary.</p>	USCCB helped initiate this legislation.	Letters Lobbying

Legalization: Legalization of Undocumented Seasonal Agricultural Workers

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 2414 Berman (D-CA)/S. 1038 Feinstein (D-CA) Agricultural Job Opportunities, Benefits, and Security Act of 2009 (AgJOBS Bill)</p> <p>As introduced in the House and Senate, the AgJOBS bill would legalize undocumented aliens who work in seasonal agriculture, relax the requirements for bringing in new H-2A nonimmigrant agricultural guest workers, and reduce some of the work protections afforded H-2A nonimmigrant agricultural guest workers.</p>	<p>House 5/14/09: H.R. 2414 introduced and referred to the House Committee on Judiciary</p> <p>Senate 5/14/09: S. 1038 introduced and referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary</p>	USCCB supports	Letter

Refugees: Admission of Afghan Special Immigrants

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 1105 Obey (D-WI) Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009</p> <p>As enacted, Division F, Title VI, Section 602(b) of H.R. 1105 would authorize the Secretary of Homeland Security to grant Special Immigrant status to up to 1,500 Afghan citizens or nationals each year between</p>	<p>House 2/23/09: H.R. 1105 introduced and referred to the House Committee on Appropriations</p> <p>2/25/09: House Passed H.R. 1105 by a vote of 245-178 (House Roll No. 86).</p>	USCCB had no formal position on the overall measure. However, is supported the provision of special immigrant status for Afghan refugees	Monitoring

II. MIGRATION AND REFUGEE SERVICES (Continued)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>fiscal years 2009 and 2013 who have been employed for at least a year by or on behalf of the United States government; received documentation and a positive recommendation from the employee's senior supervisor; and have received a letter of have experienced or are experiencing an ongoing serious threat as a consequence of the alien's employment by the United States government." The provision provides for a rolling over of unused visas from year-to-year, excludes any numbers used from the annual limitation on the number of aliens who may be given special immigrant status, and makes special immigrants from Afghanistan admitted pursuant to the provision eligible for refugee benefits and entitlement benefits.</p>	<p>Senate 3/10/09: Senate passed H.R. 1105 by a voice vote.</p> <p>President 3/11/09: H.R. 1105 was signed and became Public Law No: 111-8.</p>		

Refugees: Appropriations for Refugee Admissions and Overseas Refugee Assistance for Fiscal Year 2009

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 1105 Obey (D-WI) Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009</p> <p>As enacted into law, H.R. 1105 appropriated \$931 MILLION in fiscal year 2009 for the Department of State's Migration and Refugee Assistance (MRA) account, which funds the federal government's refugee admissions and overseas refugee assistance programs.</p>	<p>House 2/23/09: H.R. 1105 introduced and referred to the House Committee on Appropriations</p> <p>2/25/09: House Passed H.R. 1105 by a vote of 245-178 (House Roll No. 86).</p> <p>Senate 3/10/09: Senate passed H.R. 1105 by a voice vote.</p> <p>President 3/11/09: H.R. 1105 was signed and became Public Law No: 111-8.</p>	<p>USCCB had no formal position on the overall measure. However, USCCB robust appropriations for the Department of State's MRA account</p>	<p>Lobbying Letter</p>

II. MIGRATION AND REFUGEE SERVICES (Continued)

Refugees: Appropriations for Supplemental Overseas Refugee Assistance for Fiscal Year 2009

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 2346 Obey (D-WI) Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2009</p> <p>As enacted, H.R. 2346 appropriated \$390 Million for the Department of State's Migration and Refugee Assistance (MRA) account for overseas refugee assistance.</p>	<p>House 5/12/09: The House Committee on Appropriations reported H.R. 2346 as an original measure (H. Rept. 111-105) 5/14/09: House passed H.R. 2346 by a vote of 368 - 60 (Roll no. 265).</p> <p>Senate 5/21/09: Senate passed H.R. 2346 with an amendment by a vote of 86 - 3 (Record Vote Number: 202).</p> <p>Conference 6/16/09: House agreed to the conference report (H. Rept. 111-151) by a vote of 226 - 202 (Roll no. 348). 6/18/09: Senate agreed to conference report by a vote of 91 - 5. (Record Vote Number: 210).</p> <p>President 6/24/09: H.R. 2346 was signed by the President and became Public Law No: 111-32.</p>	USCCB had no position on the underlying bill but supported robust appropriations for refugees.	

Refugees: Appropriations for Refugee Admissions and Overseas Refugee Assistance for Fiscal Year 2010

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 3081 Lowey (D-NY)/S. 1434 Leahy (D-VT) Department of State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2010</p> <p>As passed by the House, H.R. 3081 would appropriate \$1.480 BILLION for the Department of State's Migration and Refugee Assistance (MRA) account, which funds the federal government's refugee admissions and overseas refugee assistance programs.</p>	<p>House 6/26/09: House Committee on Appropriations reported H.R. 3081 as an original measure (H. Rept. 111-187) 7/9/09: House Passed H.R. 3081 passed by a vote of 318-106 (House Roll No. 525).</p>	USCCB has no Formal position on the overall legislation. However, USCCB supported an appropriation of \$2.05 BILLION for the Department of State's MRA account	Lobbying Letter Testimony

II. MIGRATION AND REFUGEE SERVICES (Continued)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
As reported by the Senate Committee on Appropriations, S. 1434 would appropriate \$1.678 BILLION for the MRA Account.	<p>Senate 7/09/09: Senate Committee on Appropriations reported S. 1434 as an original measure (S. Rept. 111-44).</p>		

Refugees: Appropriations for Refugee Resettlement for Fiscal Year 2009

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 1105 Obey (D-WI) Omnibus Appropriations Act, 2009</p> <p>As enacted into law, H.R. 1105 appropriated \$633.4 MILLION in fiscal year 2009 for the Department of Health and Human Services' Office of Refugee Resettlement (ORR), which funds the federal government's refugee resettlement, trafficking victim assistance, and torture victim assistance programs, as well as the federal government's programs for unaccompanied alien children.</p>	<p>House 2/23/09: H.R. 1105 was introduced and referred to the House Committee on Appropriations 2/25/09: House Passed H.R. 1105 by a vote of 245-178 (House Roll No. 86).</p> <p>Senate 3/10/09: Senate passed H.R. 1105 by a voice vote.</p> <p>President 3/11/09: H.R. 1105 was signed and became Public Law No: 111-8.</p>	USCCB had no formal position on the overall measure. However, USSCB supports robust appropriations for the Department of Health and Human Services' ORR account	Lobbying Letter

Refugees: Appropriations for Refugee Resettlement for Fiscal Year 2010

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 3293 Obey (D-WI) Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010</p> <p>As passed by the House, H.R. 3293 would appropriate \$714.968 MILLION for the Department of Health and Human Services Office of Refugee Resettlement in fiscal year 2010, compared to a total of \$715.4</p>	<p>House 7/22/09: H.R. 3293 reported to the House as an original measure (H. Rept. 111-220) 7/24/09: House passed H.R. 3293 by a vote of 264-153 (House Roll No. 646)</p> <p>Senate 8/4/09: Senate Committee on Appropriations</p>	USCCB has no Formal position on the overall legislation. However, USSCB supports an appropriation of \$949 MILLION for the Office of Refugee Resettlement.	Lobbying Letter

II. MIGRATION AND REFUGEE SERVICES (Continued)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>MILLION that was appropriate for ORR in fiscal year 2009 and \$740.6 MILLION that was requested by the President for fiscal year 2010.</p> <p>The House-passed version of H.R. 3293 includes \$544.4 MILLION for ORR's resettlement services, \$9.8 MILLION to assist trafficking victims, \$11.4 MILLION to assist torture victims, and \$149.4 MILLION for the care and treatment of unaccompanied alien children.</p> <p>As reported by the Senate Committee on Appropriations, H.R. 3293 would appropriate \$730.657 MILLION for the ORR in fiscal year 2010, compared to a total of \$715.4 MILLION that was appropriated for ORR in fiscal year 2009 and \$740.6 MILLION that was requested by the President for fiscal year 2010. The Senate Appropriations Committee-approved version of the bill includes \$560.6 MILLION for ORR's resettlement services, \$9.8 MILLION to assist trafficking victims, \$10.8 MILLION to assist torture victims, and \$149.4 MILLION for the care and treatment of unaccompanied alien children</p>	<p>reported H.R. 3293 with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report (S Rept. No. 111-66).</p>		

Refugees: Reforms in the Refugee Admissions and Resettlement

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 2410 Berman (D-CA) Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011</p> <p>As passed by the House, H.R. 2410 would authorize \$1.577 BILLION for the Department of State's Migration and Refugee Assistance Account, which funds the federal government's refugee admissions and overseas refugee assistance operations.</p> <p>The House-passed version of the measure also contains numerous reforms to the refugee admissions process.</p>	<p>House 5/14/09: H.R. 2410 was introduced and referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs and various other committees. 6/4/09: House Committee on Foreign Affairs reported H.R. 2410 to the full House (H. Rept. 111-136) 6/10/09: House passed H.R. 2410 by a vote of 235-187 (House Roll No. 328)</p>	<p>USCCB helped initiate the refugee provisions in H.R. 2410</p>	<p>Lobbying</p>

(III). MARRIAGE AND FAMILY POLICY

Definition of Spouse: Family and Medical Leave

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 2460 DeLauro(D-CT)/ S. 1152 Kennedy (D-MA) The Healthy Families Act</p> <p>As introduced, this legislation would require employers to provide paid sick leave for the care of a number of individuals who are related to an employee, including an employee’s ailing spouse.</p> <p>The measure would circumvent the Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA), which defines a spouse to mean “only ... a person of the opposite sex who is a husband or a wife.” Instead, it would define “spouse” by reference to <u>state</u> law, thus, federally mandating employers to provide paid sick leave to employees because of the illness of their same-sex “spouse” in those states that recognize same sex marriage.</p>	<p>House 5/18/09: H.R. 2460 was introduced and referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform, and House Administration.</p> <p>Senate 5/21/09: S.1152 was introduced and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions</p>	<p>USCCB has no position on the overall legislation. The USCCB opposes providing marriage-like benefits to same sex couples and opposes provisions that would circumvent the definition of a spouse in the Defense of Marriage Act.</p>	<p>Monitoring</p>
<p>H.R. 2515 Woolsey(D-CA) The Domestic Violence Leave Act</p> <p>As introduced, this legislation would amend the Family and Medical Leave Act (“FMLA”) to entitle beneficiaries to 12 workweeks of leave during any 12-month period in order to care for such individual's family member, if the family member is addressing domestic violence, sexual assault, or stalking and their effects; or because such individual is addressing such matters, he or she is unable to perform any of the functions of his or her position.</p> <p>The measure would include domestic partners and same sex spouses in states that recognize such unions.</p>	<p>House 5/20/09: H.R. 2515 was introduced and referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform, and House Administration.</p>	<p>USCCB has no position on the overall legislation. The USCCB opposes treating same-sex unions as marriage.</p>	<p>Monitoring</p>
<p>H.R. 2132 Maloney(D-NY) The Family and Medical Leave Inclusion Act</p> <p>As introduced, this legislation would amend the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 to provide for employee leave to care for a same-sex spouse (as determined under applicable state law), domestic partner, and others if such persons have a serious health condition.</p>	<p>House 4/28/09: H.R. 2132 was introduced and referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committees on House Administration, and Oversight and Government Reform.</p>	<p>The USCCB opposes providing marriage-like benefits to same sex couples and opposes provisions that would circumvent the definition of a spouse in the Defense of Marriage Act..</p>	<p>Monitoring</p>

(III). MARRIAGE AND FAMILY POLICY (Continued)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 1723 Stark(D-CA) The Family Leave Insurance Act of 2009</p> <p>As introduced, this legislation would permit the Secretary of Labor to contract with states to establish a family and medical insurance program that would pay employees for time taken off from work for the birth or adoption of a child of either the employee or the employee's spouse or same-sex partner, or in order to care for the employee's child, parent, spouse, same-sex partner, grandchild, grandparent, or sibling if the person for whom care is provided has a serious health condition.</p>	<p>House 3/25/09: H.R. 1723 was introduced and referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committees on Oversight and Government Reform, and Ways and Means.</p>	<p>USCCB has no position on the overall legislation. The USCCB opposes providing marriage-like benefits to same sex couples.</p>	<p>Monitoring</p>

Discrimination Based on Sexuality: Employment

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 3017 Frank (D-MA)/ S. 1584 Merkley (D-OR) Employment Non-Discrimination Act</p> <p>As introduced, this legislation would make it unlawful for an employer to discriminate against an employee or prospective employee because of the person's actual or perceived homosexuality or bisexuality.</p> <p>The measure includes a provision exempting certain religious organizations from the anti-discrimination provisions.</p>	<p>House 6/24/09: H.R. 3017 was introduced and referred to the Committee on Education and Labor, and in addition to the Committees on House Administration, Oversight and Government Reform, and the Judiciary.</p> <p>Senate 8/5/09: S. 1584 was introduced, read twice and referred to the Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions.</p>	<p>USCCB has no position on the overall legislation but supports a robust exemption for religious organizations.</p>	<p>Monitoring</p>

Discrimination Based on Sexuality: Hate Crimes

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 1913 Conyers (D-MI) Local Law Enforcement Hate Crimes Prevention Act of 2009</p>	<p>House 4/2/09: H.R. 1913 was introduced and referred to the House Committee on</p>	<p>USCCB has no position on the measure.</p>	<p>Monitoring</p>

(III). MARRIAGE AND FAMILY POLICY (Continued)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>As passed by the House, this legislation would amend the federal criminal code to prohibit willfully causing bodily injury to any person through the use of fire, a firearm, a dangerous weapon, or an explosive or incendiary device because of the actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability of any person.</p> <p>The measure would also authorize funding to increase federal personnel to combat hate crimes and authorizes funding for various grant programs to assist state, local, and tribal authorities in prosecuting and combating hate crimes.</p> <p>Finally, the measure would declare that nothing in this Act shall be construed to prohibit the exercise of constitutionally-protected free speech.</p>	<p>the Judiciary.</p> <p>4/27/09: House Committee on the Judiciary reported H.R. 1913 (H. Rept. 111-86).</p> <p>4/28/09: Supplemental report filed by the Committee on Judiciary, (H. Rept. 111-86, Part II.)</p> <p>4/29/09: House passed H.R. 1913 by a vote of 249-175 (Roll No. 223).</p>		
<p>S. 909 Kennedy (D-MA) the Matthew Shepard Hate Crimes Prevention Act</p> <p>As introduced, this legislation would amend the federal criminal code to prohibit willfully causing bodily injury to any person because of the actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability of such person; amend the Hate Crimes Statistics Act to expand data collection and reporting requirements under such Act to include crimes manifesting prejudice based on gender and gender identity and hate crimes committed by and against juveniles.</p> <p>The measure would also authorize funding to increase federal personnel to combat hate crimes and authorizes funding for various grant programs to assist state, local, and tribal authorities in prosecuting and combating hate crimes.</p> <p>Finally, the measure would declare that nothing in this Act shall be construed to prohibit the exercise of constitutionally-protected free speech.</p>	<p>Senate</p> <p>4/28/09: S. 909 was introduced and referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary</p> <p>Note: The Matthew Shepard act was incorporated in to S. 1390 and H.R. 2647 the National Defense Authorization Act FY2010.</p> <p>President</p> <p>10/29/09: H.R. 2647 was signed by the president and Became Public Law No: 111-84.</p>	USCCB has no position on the measure.	Monitoring

(III). MARRIAGE AND FAMILY POLICY (Continued)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>S. 1390 Levin (D-MI) H.R. 2647 Skelton(D-MO) National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2010</p> <p>As presented to the president, this legislation contains the text of S. 909, the Matthew Shepard Hate Crimes Prevention Act.</p> <p>This act amends the federal criminal code to prohibit willfully causing bodily injury to any person because of the actual or perceived race, color, religion, national origin, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, or disability of such person; amend the Hate Crimes Statistics Act to expand data collection and reporting requirements under such Act to include crimes manifesting prejudice based on gender and gender identity and hate crimes committed by and against juveniles.</p> <p>The measure authorizes funding to increase federal personnel to combat hate crimes and authorizes funding for various grant programs to assist state, local, and tribal authorities in prosecuting and combating hate crimes.</p> <p>Finally, the measure declares that nothing in this Act shall be construed to prohibit the exercise of constitutionally-protected free speech.</p>	<p>House 6/2/09: H.R. 2647 was introduced and referred to the House Committee on Armed Services. 6/18/09: H.R. 2647 was reported (Amended) by the Committee on Armed Services. H. Rept. 111-166. 6/25/09: The House passed H.R. 2467 by a vote of: 389 - 22, 1 Present (Roll no. 460).</p> <p>Senate 7/2/09: Senate Committee on Armed Services reported S. 1390 as an original measure (S. Rept. 111-35). 7/16/09: Senate invoked cloture on the Leahy Amendment 1511, which would have added a hate crimes provision to S. 1390 by a vote of 63-28 (Record Vote Number 233). 7/16/09: Senate agreed to Leahy Amendment 1511 adding a hate crimes provision to S. 1390 by unanimous consent. 7/23/09: Senate passed S. 1390 by a vote of 87-7 (Record Vote Number 242). 7/23/09: Senate incorporated S.1390 in H.R. 2647 as an amendment.</p> <p>Conference 10/8/09: House agreed to the conference report by a vote of: 281 - 146 (Roll no. 770). 10/22/09: Senate agreed to conference report by a vote of: 68 - 29. Record Vote Number: 327.</p> <p>President 10/29/09: H.R. 2647 was signed by the president and Became Public Law No: 111-84.</p>	<p>USCCB has no position on the measure.</p>	<p>Monitoring</p>

(III). MARRIAGE AND FAMILY POLICY (Continued)**Employee Benefits: Federal Employee Benefits**

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 2517 Baldwin(D-WI)/S. 1102 Lieberman(I-CT) The Domestic Partnership Benefits and Obligations Act of 2009</p> <p>As introduced, this legislation would require that the same-sex partners of federal employees be treated as spouses for the purposes of employee benefits, including health and dental insurance; retirement and disability benefits and plans; family, medical and emergency leave; group life insurance; and long-term care insurance.</p>	<p>House 5/20/09: H.R. 2517 was introduced and referred to the Committee on Oversight and Government Reform, and in addition to the Committees on House Administration, and the Judiciary, for a period to be subsequently determined by the Speaker, in each case for consideration of such provisions as fall within the jurisdiction of the committee concerned.</p> <p>7/30/09: Forwarded by House Subcommittee on Federal Workforce, Post Office, and the District of Columbia to Full Committee (Amended) by a vote of 5 – 3.</p> <p>Senate 5/20/09: S. 1102 was introduced and referred to the Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs.</p>	<p>The USCCB opposes providing marriage-like benefits to same sex couples</p>	<p>Monitoring</p>
<p>H.R. 2410 Berman (D-CA) The Foreign Relations Authorization Act, Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011</p> <p>As passed by the House of Representatives and reported by the House Committee on Foreign Affairs, section 333(a) of the introduced version of H.R. 2410 (relating to benefits for same sex partners of foreign service officers) was not included in the bill.</p> <p>As introduced, Section 333(a) of H.R. 2410 would have provided that same-sex domestic partners of foreign service officers be provided travel and related expenses in the same manner provided to spouses and unmarried children who are under 21 years of age or incapable of self-</p>	<p>House 5/14/09: H.R. 2410 was introduced and referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs. 6/4/09: House Foreign Affairs Committee marked up H.R. 2410, stripping section 333(a) from the bill. 6/4/09: House Committee on Foreign Affairs Reported H.R. 2410 (H. Rept. 111-136). 6/10/09: House passed H.R. 2410 by a vote of 235 - 187 (Roll no. 328).</p>	<p>USCCB has no position on the overall legislation. It opposes providing marriage-like benefits to same sex partners.</p>	<p>Lobbying</p>

(III). MARRIAGE AND FAMILY POLICY (Continued)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>support, parents of the employee or the employee's spouse who derive at least 51 percent of their support from the employee, and unmarried siblings of the employee or the employee's spouse who derive at least 51 percent of their support from the employee and are either under 21 years of age or incapable of self-support.</p>			
<p>H.R. 2475 Ros-Lehtinen(D-FL) The Foreign Relations Authorization and Reform Act, Fiscal Years 2010 and 2011</p> <p>As introduced, this legislation provides that “[i]t should be the policy of the United States to amend or promulgate the personnel regulations necessary to ensure that same-sex domestic partners of United States Foreign Service Officers are provided with the same benefits, protections, and services currently provided to Eligible Family Members under the Foreign Affairs Manual, including inclusion in travel orders, and access to training, emergency and medical evacuations, post health units, visa support, and preferential status for employment at post.”</p>	<p>House 5/19/09: H.R. 2475 was introduced and referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.</p>	<p>USCCB has no position on the overall legislation. It opposes providing marriage-like benefits to same sex partners.</p>	<p>Monitoring</p>

Employee Benefits: Social Security

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 769 Lowey(D-NY) Social Security Caregiver Credit Act of 2009</p> <p>As introduced, this legislation would provide that care that an individual provides to a “dependent relative” without monetary compensation would be deemed wages for the purposes of determining out how much the caregiver has paid into Social Security.</p> <p>The measure would define the term “dependent relative” to include a number of individuals, including a person's spouse or domestic partner.</p>	<p>House 1/28/09: H.R. 769 was introduced and Referred to the House Committee on Ways and Means.</p>	<p>USCCB has no position on the overall legislation. The USCCB opposes providing marriage-like benefits to same sex partners.</p>	<p>Monitoring</p>

(III). MARRIAGE AND FAMILY POLICY (Continued)**Family Policy: Family Based Legal Immigration System Reforms**

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>S. 1085 Menendez (D-NJ) Reuniting Families Act</p> <p>As introduced, this legislation would reorder the family immigration preference system to help eliminate backlogs in family immigration priority dates and enhance the ability of family-based immigrants to be admitted to the United States.</p>	<p>House 5/20/09: S. 1085 introduced and referred to the Senate Committee on the Judiciary.</p>	<p>USCCB supports S. 1085</p>	<p>Letter Lobbying Press Release</p>
<p>H.R. 2709 Honda (D-CA) Reuniting Families Act</p> <p>As introduced, Title I of H.R. 2709 would reorder the family immigration preference system to help eliminate backlogs in family immigration priority dates and enhance the ability of family-based immigrants to be admitted to the United States.</p> <p>Title II of the introduced version of H.R. 2709 would provide marriage-like immigration benefits to the “permanent partners” of homosexual citizens, asylees, refugees, parolees, nonimmigrants, or permanent residents.</p>	<p>House 6/11/09: H.R. 2709 introduced and referred to the House Committee on the Judiciary.</p>	<p>USCCB opposes Title II of H.R. 2709</p>	<p>Letter Lobbying Press Release</p>

IV. INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE AND PEACE

Africa: Political Stabilization and Peace Keeping

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 3081 Lowey (D-NY)/ S.1434 Leahy (D-VT) Department of State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2010</p> <p>As passed by the House of Representatives and reported by the Senate Committee on Appropriations, this legislation would appropriate \$2.1 billion for Contributions for International Peacekeeping Activities. These funds support UN peacekeeping missions around the world including Darfur, Congo, Liberia, Haiti and Lebanon.</p>	<p>House 6/26/09: House Committee on Appropriations reported H.R. 3081 as an original measure, H. Rept. 111-187</p> <p>7/9/09: House passed H.R. 3081 by a vote of 318 - 106 (Roll no. 525).</p> <p>Senate 7/9/09: Senate Committee on Appropriations reported S. 1434 as an original measure With written report (S. Rept. No. 111-44).</p>	<p>USCCB has no position on the underlying bill but advocated for robust funding for humanitarian and peace keeping efforts.</p>	<p>Lobbying Letter Testimony Action Alert</p>
<p>S. 1067 Feingold (D-WI)/H.R. 2478 McGovern (D-MA) Lord's Resistance Army (LRA) Disarmament and Northern Uganda Recovery Act of 2009</p> <p>As introduced, This legislation would direct the President to develop a U.S. strategy to disarm and eliminate the threat of the LRA and support democratic and constitutional governance in Uganda, as well as humanitarian assistance to the Congo, Northern Uganda and Sudan.</p>	<p>Senate 5/19/09: S.1067 was introduced and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.</p> <p>House 5/19/09: H.R. 2478 was introduced and Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.</p>	<p>USCCB supports this bill with the exception of language concerning military force to eliminate the LRA that might threaten innocent civilians.</p>	<p>Monitoring</p>
<p>H.R. 2346 Obey (D-WI) Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2009</p> <p>As enacted, H.R. 2346 appropriated nearly \$106 billion in additional funding for foreign operations. Included in the law is an appropriation \$906 million for the International Peacekeeping Account (CIPA) and Peacekeeping Operations (PKO), which includes aid to African countries. The law also appropriated \$270 million for International Disaster Assistance (IDA), which provides emergency aid for Darfur, Zimbabwe, Somalia, Ethiopia, and for internally displaced persons in Pakistan.</p>	<p>House 5/12/09: House Committee on Appropriations reported H.R. 2346 as an original measure, H. Rept. 111-105</p> <p>5/14/09: House passed H.R. 2346 by a vote of 368 - 60 (Roll no. 265).</p> <p>Senate 5/21/09: Senate passed H.R. 2346 with an amendment by a vote of 86 - 3. (Record Vote Number: 202).</p> <p>Conference 6/16/09: House agreed to the conference report (H. Rept. 111-151) by a vote of 226 - 202 (Roll no. 348).</p> <p>6/18/09: Senate agreed to conference report by a vote of 91 - 5. (Record Vote Number:</p>	<p>USCCB had no position on the underlying bill but proposed at least \$887 for CIPA and PKO, and \$200 million for IDA.</p>	<p>Lobbying Letter Testimony Action Alert</p>

IV. INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE AND PEACE (Continued)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
	<p>210).</p> <p>President 6/24/09: H.R. 2346 was signed and became Public Law No: 111-32.</p>		

Foreign Assistance: Agriculture and Food Aid

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 3081 Lowey (D-NY)/ S.1434 Leahy (D-VT) Department of State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2010</p> <p>As passed by the House of Representatives, H.R. 3081 would appropriate \$1 billion to provide agricultural assistance and improve food security.</p> <p>As reported by the Senate Committee on Appropriations S. 1434 would appropriate \$1.5 billion for agricultural assistance and improve food security.</p>	<p>House 6/26/09: House Committee on Appropriations reported H.R. 3081 as an original measure, H. Rept. 111-187</p> <p>7/9/09: House passed H.R. 3081 by a vote of 318 - 106 (Roll no. 525).</p> <p>Senate 7/9/09: Senate Committee on Appropriations reported S. 1434 as an original measure With written report (S. Rept. No. 111-44).</p>	USCCB has no position on the underlying bill but advocated for robust funding for international food aid.	Lobbying Letter Testimony Action Alert
<p>H.R. 2346 Obey (D-WI) Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2009</p> <p>As enacted H.R. 2346 appropriated nearly \$106 billion in additional funding for foreign operations. Included in the law is \$700 million in additional funding for emergency food aid.</p>	<p>(For Legislative History please refer to “Africa: Political Stabilization and Peace Keeping” section above)</p> <p>President 6/24/09: H.R. 2346 was signed and became Public Law No: 111-32.</p>	USCCB has no position on the underlying bill but requested \$864 million in additional funding for emergency food aid.	Lobbying Letter Testimony
<p>S. 384 Lugar (R-IN)/H.R. 3077 McCollum (D-MN) Global Food Security Act of 2009</p> <p>As reported by the Senate Committee on Foreign Relations and introduced in the House, this bill would authorize appropriations for fiscal years 2010 through 2014 to provide assistance to foreign countries to promote food security, to stimulate rural economies, and to improve emergency response to food crises.</p>	<p>Senate 2/5/09: S. 384 was introduced and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.</p> <p>5/13/09: House Committee on Foreign Relations. Reported S. 384 with amendments (Senate report No. 111-19).</p> <p>House</p>	USCCB Supports	Lobbying Letter

IV. INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE AND PEACE (Continued)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
	6/26/09: H.R. 3077 was introduced and Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.		
<p>H.R. 2795 McGovern (D-MA) Roadmap to End Global Hunger and Promote Food Security Act of 2009</p> <p>As introduced, H.R. 2795 would declare that it shall be U.S. policy to reduce global hunger, advance nutrition, increase food security, and ensure that relevant federal policies and programs: (1) provide emergency response and direct support to vulnerable populations in times of need; (2) increase resilience to and reduce, limit, or mitigate the impact of shocks on vulnerable populations; (3) increase and build the capacity of people and governments to sustainably feed themselves; (4) ensure adequate access to the required calories and nutrients needed to live healthy lives; (5) strengthen the ability of small-scale farmers to sustain and increase their production and livelihoods; and (6) incorporate sustainable and environmentally sound agricultural methods and practices.</p>	<p>House 6/10/09: H.R. 2795 was introduced and referred to the Committee on Foreign Affairs, and in addition to the Committees on Agriculture, and Rules.</p>	USCCB Supports	Monitoring

Foreign Assistance: Global Health Investment for AIDS, TB and Malaria prevention.

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 3081 Lowey (D-NY)/ S.1434 Leahy (D-VT) Department of State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2010</p> <p>As passed by the House of Representatives, H.R. 3081 would appropriate \$5.75 billion for global health investments including AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria prevention through the President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) while preserving politically negotiated language that allows for the participation of Catholic programs.</p> <p>As reported by the Senate Committee on Appropriations, S. 1434 would appropriate \$5.359 billion for PEPFAR.</p>	<p>House 6/26/09: House Committee on Appropriations reported H.R. 3081 as an original measure, H. Rept. 111-187 7/9/09: House passed H.R. 3081 by a vote of 318 - 106 (Roll no. 525).</p> <p>Senate 7/9/09: Senate Committee on Appropriations reported S. 1434 as an original measure With written report (S. Rept. No. 111-44).</p>	USCCB has no Formal position on the overall legislation. However, USSCB supported robust funding for morally and culturally responsible programs to combat HIV/AIDS, Tuberculosis and Malaria.	Lobbying Testimony

IV. INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE AND PEACE (Continued)

Foreign Assistance Reform

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 2139 Berman (D-CA) Initiating Foreign Assistance Reform Act of 2009</p> <p>As introduced, H.R. 2139 would direct the President to develop and implement: (1) a National Strategy for Global Development to further the U.S. foreign policy objective of reducing poverty and contributing to economic growth in developing countries, including responding to humanitarian crises; and (2) a system to monitor and evaluate the effectiveness of U.S. foreign assistance.</p>	<p>House 4/28/09: H.R. 2139 was introduced and Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.</p>	USCCB supports the general thrust of the bill	Lobbying Letter

Global Climate Change

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 2454 Waxman (D-CA) American Clean Energy and Security Act of 2009</p> <p>As passed by the House of Representatives, H.R. 2454 is a comprehensive climate change bill that would impose emission limits on electricity, transportation and manufacturing industries. It includes financial incentives for reducing emissions. It would also provide very small amounts of assistance to lessen the impact on developing nations (allocates 1% of revenue raised which is much less than the 10% originally deemed necessary).</p>	<p>House 5/15/09: H.R. 2454 was introduced and Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, Financial Services, Education and Labor, Science and Technology, Transportation and Infrastructure, Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Ways and Means. 6/5/09: House Energy and Commerce Committee reported H.R. 2454 (H. Rept. 111-137, Part I.) 6/26/09: House passed H.R. 2454 by a vote of 219 - 212 (Roll no. 477).</p>	USCCB is working to increase the amount of aid for international adaptation as the bill moves through the Senate.	Lobbying Letters Statement

IV. INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE AND PEACE (Continued)

Human Rights: Torture

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 1105 Obey (D-WI) Omnibus Appropriations Act of 2009</p> <p>As enacted, H.R. 1105 authorizes appropriations for fiscal year 2009 for intelligence and intelligence-related activities of the United States Government, the Community Management Account, and the Central Intelligence Agency Retirement and Disability System, and for other purposes.</p>	<p>House 2/23/09: H.R. 1105 was introduced and Referred to the Committee on Appropriations, and the Committee on the Budget. 2/25/09: House passed H.R. 1105 by a vote of 245 - 178 (Roll no. 86).</p> <p>Senate 3/10/09: Senate passed H.R.1105 without amendment by Voice Vote.</p> <p>President 3/11/09: H.R. 1105 was signed and became Public Law No: 111-8.</p>	USCCB has no formal position on the overall legislation, however, USCCB supports provisions within the bill that prohibits torture as an interrogation technique.	Lobbying

Indiscriminate Weapons

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 981 McGovern (D-MA)/S. 416 Feinstein (D-CA) The Cluster Munitions Civilian Protection Act of 2009</p> <p>As introduced, this legislation would limit the use, sale, and transfer of cluster munitions. Cluster bombs are bombs that contain many smaller bombs which are released upon impact.</p>	<p>House 2/11/09: H.R. 981 was introduced and referred to the House Committee on Armed Services.</p> <p>Senate 2/11/09: S. 416 was introduced and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.</p>	USCCB supports	Lobbying Letter

IV. INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE AND PEACE (Continued)

International Debt Relief

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 3081 Lowey (D-NY)/ S. 1434 Leahy (D-VT) Department of State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2010</p> <p>As passed by the House, H.R. 3081 would appropriate \$1.4 billion for bilateral assistance to countries that meet certain economic and governance criteria (Millennium Challenge Corporation).</p> <p>As reported by the Senate Committee on Appropriations S. 1434 would appropriate \$950 Million for bilateral assistance to countries that meet certain economic and governance criteria (Millennium Challenge Corporation).</p>	<p>House 6/26/09: Committee on Appropriations reported H.R. 3081 as an original measure, H. Rept. 111-187</p> <p>7/9/09: H.R. 3081 passed by a vote of 318 - 106 (Roll no. 525).</p> <p>Senate 7/9/09: Senate Committee on Appropriations reported S. 1434 as an original measure With written report (S. Rept. No. 111-44).</p>	<p>USCCB has no position on the underlying bill but advocated for robust funding for debt relief and humanitarian aid.</p>	<p>Lobbying Letter Testimony Action Alert</p>
<p>H.R. 2346 Obey (D-WI) Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2009</p> <p>As enacted, H.R. 2346 appropriated nearly \$106 billion in additional funding for foreign operations. Included in the law are appropriations of \$356 million for the International Development Association and \$26 million for the African Development Fund.</p>	<p>(For Legislative History please refer to “Africa: Political Stabilization and Peace Keeping” section above)</p> <p>President 6/24/09: H.R. 2346 was signed and became Public Law No: 111-32.</p>	<p>USCCB has no position on the underlying bill but requested contributions to the World Bank’s International Development Association (IDA) and the African Development Fund (ADF).</p>	<p>Lobbying Letter Action Alert</p>
<p>H.R. 2639 A. Smith (D-WA) The Global Poverty Act of 2009</p> <p>As introduced H.R.2639 would declare it official U.S. policy to promote the reduction of global poverty, eliminate extreme global poverty, and achieve the U.N. Millennium Development Goal of cutting extreme global poverty in half by 2015. The bill would require the president to develop and implement a comprehensive strategy to achieve the above referenced goals.</p>	<p>House 5/21/09: H.R. 2639 was introduced and referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.</p>	<p>USCCB supports</p>	<p>Lobbying Letter</p>

IV. INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE AND PEACE (Continued)

Iraq/Afghanistan

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 3081 Lowey (D-NY)/ S. 1434 Leahy (D-VT) Department of State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2010</p> <p>As passed by the House, H.R. 3081 would appropriate \$2.695 billion in assistance for Afghanistan; \$1.519 billion in assistance for Pakistan; and \$484.3 million for Iraq.</p> <p>As reported by the Senate Committee on Appropriations, S. 1434 would appropriate \$2.762 billion in assistance for Afghanistan; and \$427 Million for Iraq.</p>	<p>House 6/26/09: House Committee on Appropriations reported H.R. 3081 as an original measure, (H. Rept. 111-187) 7/9/09: House passed H.R. 3081 by a vote of 318 - 106 (Roll no. 525).</p> <p>Senate 7/9/09: Senate Committee on Appropriations reported S. 1434 as an original measure With written report (No. 111-44).</p>	USCCB has no position on the underlying bill but advocated for robust funding for humanitarian and peace keeping efforts.	Lobbying Letter Testimony Action Alert
<p>H.R. 2346 Obey (D-WI) Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2009</p> <p>As enacted this “emergency supplemental” provides nearly \$106 billion in additional funding for foreign operations. Included in the law is \$1.839 billion in funding for aid to the people of Iraq, Afghanistan and Pakistan.</p>	<p>(For Legislative History please refer to “Africa: Political Stabilization and Peace Keeping” section above)</p> <p>President 6/24/09: H.R. 2346 was signed and became Public Law No: 111-32.</p>	USCCB has no position on the underlying bill but requested at least \$2.459 billion for funding in Iraq, Afghanistan and Pakistan, especially for economic recovery and social services for the war-ravaged people.	Lobbying Letter Testimony

Israeli - Palestinian Peace

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 3081 Lowey (D-NY)/ S. 1434 Leahy (D-VT) Department of State, Foreign Operations and Related Programs Appropriations Act, 2010</p> <p>As passed by the House and reported by the Senate Committee on Appropriations, this legislation would appropriate \$2.22 billion for Israel</p>	<p>House 6/26/09: House Committee on Appropriations reported H.R. 3081 as an original measure, (H. Rept. 111-187) 7/9/09: House passed H.R. 3081 by a vote of 318 - 106 (Roll no. 525).</p> <p>Senate 7/9/09: Senate Committee on Appropriations reported S. 1434 as an original measure</p>	USCCB has no position on the underlying bill but advocated for robust funding for humanitarian and peace keeping efforts.	Lobbying Letter Testimony Action Alert

IV. INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE AND PEACE (Continued)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
	With written report (S. Rept. No. 111-44).		
<p>H.R. 2346 Obey (D-WI) Supplemental Appropriations Act of 2009</p> <p>As enacted, H.R. 2346 appropriated nearly \$106 billion in additional funding for foreign operations. Included in this law is \$551 million for economic and humanitarian assistance in the West Bank and Gaza.</p>	<p>(For Legislative History please refer to “Africa: Political Stabilization and Peace Keeping” section above)</p> <p>President 6/24/09: H.R. 2346 was signed and became Public Law No: 111-32.</p>	USCCB had no position on the underlying bill but proposed at least \$559 million to support the peace process and to meet urgent humanitarian, social and economic needs.	Lobbying Letter Testimony
<p>H. Res. 130 Delahunt (D-MA) Expressing support for the appointment of former Senator George Mitchell as Special Envoy for Middle East Peace, and for other purposes.</p> <p>As introduced, H. Res. 130 supports a two state solution in working toward a true and lasting solution to Israeli- Palestinian conflict. Further, the resolution supports the appointment of Special Envoy Mitchell to oversee the peace process.</p>	<p>House 2/4/09: H. Res. 130 was introduced and Referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.</p>	USCCB supports	Lobbying Letter Action Alert

Nuclear Weapons

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H. Res. 278 McGovern (D-MA) and Lungren (R-CA) The Global Security Priorities Resolution</p> <p>As introduced, H. Res. 278 encourages reduction in nuclear armaments and links the savings derived to increased support for nuclear non-proliferation efforts and child survival programs.</p>	<p>House 3/24/09: H. Res. 278 was introduced and referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.</p>	USCCB supports	Lobbying Letters Action Alert

IV. INTERNATIONAL JUSTICE AND PEACE (Continued)

Trade

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 874 Delahunt (D-MA)/S. 428 Dorgan (D-ND) Freedom to Travel to Cuba Act of 2009</p> <p>As introduced, this legislation would allow for unrestricted travel between Cuba and the United States by U.S. citizens.</p>	<p>House 2/4/09: H.R. 874 was introduced and referred to the House Committee on Foreign Affairs.</p> <p>Senate 2/12/09: S. 428 was introduced and referred to the Committee on Foreign Relations.</p>	USCCB supports	Lobbying Letters Statements Action Alert
<p>S. 891 Brownback (R-KS) Congo Conflict Minerals Act of 2009</p> <p>As introduced, S. 891 would declare that it is U.S. policy to promote peace and security in the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) by supporting the efforts of the DRC and the international community to: (1) monitor and stop commercial activities involving the natural resources of the DRC (the minerals columbite-tantalite [coltan], cassiterite, wolframite, and gold) that contribute to illegal armed groups and human rights violations in the eastern region of the DRC; and (2) develop stronger governance and economic institutions that can facilitate and improve transparency in the cross-border trade involving such natural resources in order to reduce exploitation by illegal armed groups and promote local and regional development.</p>	<p>Senate 4/23/09: S. 891 was introduced and referred to the Committee on Banking, Housing, and Urban Affairs.</p>	USCCB Supports	Lobbying Letter

V. EDUCATION

Appropriations: Education Appropriations

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 3293, Obey (D-WI) Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, and Education and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010</p> <p>This measure funds the Departments of Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and related agencies.</p> <p>As passed by the House of Representatives, H.R. 3293 would appropriate funds for No Child Left Behind (NCLB) programs at the fiscal year 2008 level. Additionally, it would appropriate funding for federal programs inclusive of Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA), Higher Education Act (HEA), and Perkins Career/Technical Education programs.</p> <p>As reported by the Senate Committee on Appropriations, the appropriations for No Child Left Behind (NCLB) remains funded at the Fiscal Year 2008 level. Additionally, the bill contains funding for federal programs inclusive of IDEA, HEA, and Perkins Career/Technical Education programs.</p>	<p>House 7/22/09: House Committee on Appropriations reported H.R. 3293 as an original measure, H. Rept. 111-220</p> <p>7/24/09: House rejected an amendment that barred funds from being made available for planned parenthood for voluntary family planning by a vote of 183-247.</p> <p>7/24/09: House passed H.R. 3293 by a vote of 264-153. (Roll No. 646).</p> <p>Senate 8/4/09: Senate Committee on Appropriations reported H.R. 3293 with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report (No. 111-66).</p>	<p>USCCB has no formal position on this legislation; however, USCCB supports continuing or increasing funding for appropriate federal programs benefiting public, private, and religious schools.</p>	<p>Lobbying</p>
<p>H.R. 3170, Serrano (D-NY) S. 1432 Durbin (D-IL) Financial Services and General Government Appropriations Act, 2010</p> <p>This measure funds the Departments of the Treasury, the Judiciary, the District of Columbia, and various independent agencies.</p> <p>As passed by the House of Representatives, H.R. 3170 would appropriate \$74.4 million for the three-sector school improvement program for the District of Columbia; and \$42.2 million for the District of Columbia public schools.</p> <p>With regard to Opportunity Scholarships, the House-passed version of H.R. 3170 would appropriate \$12.2 million for Opportunity Scholarships used at District of Columbia private and religious schools. It would limit administrative costs and assessments to no more than \$1 million. The</p>	<p>House 7/10/09: House Committee on Appropriations reported H.R. 3170 as an original measure, H. Rept. 111-202</p> <p>7/16/09: House passed H.R. 3170 by a vote of 219 - 208, 1 Present (Roll no. 571)</p> <p>Senate 7/9/09: Committee on Appropriations reported S.1432 as an Original measure (report No. 111-43).</p>	<p>USCCB has no formal position on the overall legislation; however, USCCB supports equitable funding for the three-sector school improvement program in the District of Columbia and the inclusion of new students and siblings for scholarships. In addition, USCCB supports continuing testing of scholarship students using the nationally recognized evaluation of the "Stanford-9" test.</p>	<p>Lobbying Action Alerts</p>

V. EDUCATION (continued)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>measure would provide, as well, that students already established in the program could maintain their scholarships until their graduation. However, it would provide that no new students or siblings of students may enter the program and receive scholarships.</p> <p>As reported by the Senate Committee on Appropriations, S. 1432 would appropriate \$13.2 million for Opportunity Scholarships used at District of Columbia private and religious schools. It would limit funding for program oversight to \$1 million and limit funding for covering the cost of administering the same tests to Scholarship and District of Columbia public school students to \$1 million. The Senate Appropriations Committee-approved measure also would require that Scholarship funding be used only for students already enrolled in the school improvement program and that the Secretary of Education evaluate and report the academic performance of Scholarship students using the test taken by the students in the District of Columbia public schools. The Senate Appropriations Committee-reported version of S. 1432 would, further, require that schools with students receiving Opportunity Scholarships have a valid certificate of occupancy issued by the District of Columbia and that teachers of core subject matter have bachelor's degrees.</p>		<p>Of the estimated 1, 700 enrolled students receiving scholarships, 879 attend 20 Catholic schools - -697 in Archdiocesan elementary schools.</p>	

DC Scholarships:

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 2556, Boehner (R-OH) The Preserving DC Student Scholarship Act of 2009</p> <p>As introduced, H.R. 2556 would provide low-income parents residing in the District of Columbia with expanded opportunities for enrolling their children in high quality schools in the District of Columbia. The legislation includes funding for 2010-2011 that does not exceed \$8,000</p>	<p>5/21/09: H.R. 2556 was introduced and referred to the House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform.</p>	<p>USCCB supports this legislation.</p>	<p>Lobbying</p>

V. EDUCATION (continued)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
for attendance in kindergarten through grade 8 and funding that does not exceed \$12,000 for attendance in grades 9-12.			
<p>S. 1552 Lieberman(I-CT) The Scholarships for Opportunity and Results (SOAR) Act</p> <p>As introduced, S. 1552 would provide low-income parents residing in the District of Columbia with expanded opportunities for enrolling their children in high quality schools in the District of Columbia. The legislation includes funding for 2010-2011 that does not exceed \$9,000 for attendance in kindergarten through grade 8 and funding that does not exceed \$11,000 for attendance in grades 9-12.</p>	7/30/09: S. 1552 was introduced.	USCCB supports this legislation.	Lobbying

Funding for Student and Teacher Services at Non-Public Schools:

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>S.____/H.R._____ Elementary and Secondary Education Act</p> <p>As drafted (but not yet introduced at the time of this writing), this legislation would provide funds for professional development, instructional materials, resources to support educational programs, and parental involvement promotion in primary and secondary education.</p>	The Congress is expected to take up this legislation in 2010	USCCB has no position on the overall legislation. However, as a part of the draft discussion, USCCB has highlighted some specific problems associated with the funding formula for student and teacher services at non-public schools.	Lobbying

VI. DOMESTIC SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Environment: Clean energy Jobs

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 2454, Waxman (D-CA) The American Clean Energy and Security Act</p> <p>As passed by the House of Representatives, H.R. 2454 is designed to develop clean energy jobs, achieve energy independence, reduce global warming pollution and help the United States transition to a clean energy economy. The Congressional Budget Office (CBO) and the Joint Committee on Taxation collectively assess that the legislation would increase federal revenues by an estimated \$846 billion through 2019, and increase direct spending by an estimated \$821 billion for the same time frame.</p>	<p>House 5/15/09: H.R. 2454 was introduced and Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Foreign Affairs, Financial Services, Education and Labor, Science and Technology, Transportation and Infrastructure, Natural Resources, Agriculture, and Ways and Means. 6/5/09: House Committee on Energy and Commerce reported H.R. 2454 (H. Rept. 111-137, Part I). 6/26/09: House passed H.R. 2454 by a vote of 219 - 212 (Roll no. 477).</p>	USCCB supported this legislation.	Lobbying Letter

Healthcare

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 3200 Dingel (D-MI) America's Affordable Health Choices Act of 2009</p> <p>As reported by the House Committee on Energy and Commerce, the House Committee on Ways and Means, and the House Committee on Education and Labor, H.R. 3200 would make comprehensive reforms in the American health care system that would establish minimum insurance coverage requirements for health insurance plans and expand health care access for the uninsured. Each of the three versions of the bill would provide an option for Americans to participate in a public health insurance plan that would be at least partially subsidized by the federal government for low-income Americans</p>	<p>House 7/14/09: H.R. 3200 was introduced and referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, Education and Labor, Oversight and Government Reform, and the Budget. 7/17/09: House Committee on Ways and Means ordered H.R. 3200 to be Reported by a vote of 23 - 18. 7/17/09: House Committee on Education and Labor ordered H.R. 3200 to be reported (Amended) by a vote of 26 - 22. 7/31/09: House Committee on Energy and</p>	USCCB has no formal position on the overall legislation; however, the bishops' statement, <i>Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship</i> , stresses and supports that "affordable and accessible health care is an essential safeguard of human life and a fundamental right." Catholic teaching calls on society to respect and protect life from the moment of conception until natural death.	Lobbying Letter Action Alert

VI. DOMESTIC SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
	<p>Commerce ordered H.R. 3200 to be Reported (Amended) by a vote of 31-28.</p> <p>10/14/09: Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Energy and Commerce. H. Rept. 111-299, Part I.</p> <p>10/14/09: Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Ways and Means. H. Rept. 111-299, Part II.</p> <p>10/14/09: Reported (Amended) by the Committee on Education and Labor. H. Rept. 111-299, Part III.</p>		
<p>S. 1679, Harkin (D-IA) The Affordable Health Choices Act</p> <p>As reported by the Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee, this legislation is designed to reduce health costs, protect individual choice in doctors and plans, and assure quality and affordable health care for Americans.</p>	<p>Senate</p> <p>7/15/09: The Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee approved the bill by a vote of 13-10.</p> <p>9/17/09: Original measure reported to Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions without written report.</p>	<p>USCCB has no formal position on the overall legislation; however, the bishops' statement, <i>Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship</i>, stresses and supports that "affordable and accessible health care is an essential safeguard of human life and a fundamental right." Catholic teaching calls on society to respect and protect life from the moment of conception until natural death.</p>	<p>Lobbied Letters Statements Action Alerts</p>
<p>S.1796: Baucus (D-IA) America's Healthy Future Act</p> <p>As reported by the Senate Finance Committee, S. 1796 requires most U.S. citizens and legal residents to have health insurance. Create state-based health insurance exchanges through which individuals can purchase coverage, with premium and cost-sharing credits available to individuals/families with income between 100-400% of the federal poverty level (the poverty level is \$18,310 for a family of three in 2009) and create separate exchanges through which small businesses can purchase coverage. Assess a fee on certain employers that do not offer coverage for each employee who receives a tax credit for health insurance through an exchange, with exceptions for small employers.</p>	<p>Senate</p> <p>7/15/09: The Senate Health, Education, Labor and Pensions Committee approved the bill by a vote of 13-10.</p> <p>9/17/09: Original measure reported to Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions without written report.</p>	<p>USCCB has no formal position on the overall legislation; however, the bishops' statement, <i>Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship</i>, stresses and supports that "affordable and accessible health care is an essential safeguard of human life and a fundamental right." Catholic teaching calls on society to respect and protect life from the moment of conception until natural death.</p>	<p>Lobbying Letter Action Alert</p>

VI. DOMESTIC SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
Impose new regulations on health plans in the exchange and in the individual and small group markets. Expand Medicaid to all individuals with incomes up to 133% of the federal poverty level.			

Health Insurance: State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP)

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 2, Pallone (D-NJ) The Children's Health Insurance Program Reauthorization Act of 2009</p> <p>As enacted, H.R. 2 reauthorized and expanded coverage of the State Children's Health Insurance Program (SCHIP).</p>	<p>House 1/13/09: H.R. 2 was introduced and Referred to the Committee on Energy and Commerce, and in addition to the Committees on Ways and Means, and Education and Labor</p> <p>1/14/09: House passed H.R. 2 by a vote of 289 - 139 (Roll no. 16).</p> <p>Senate 1/29/09: Senate passed H.R. 2 with an amendment by a vote of 66 - 32</p> <p>President 2/4/09: H.R. 2 was signed by the President and became Public Law No: 111-3.</p>	USCCB supported this legislation	Lobbied Letters Action Alerts

Housing

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 3288, Olver (D-MA) Transportation, Housing and Urban Development and Related Agencies Appropriations Act, 2010</p> <p>This bill funds the Departments of Transportation, Housing and Urban Development, and related agencies.</p> <p>As passed by the House, H.R. 3288 includes \$16.4 billion in funding for</p>	<p>House 7/22/09: House Committee on Appropriations reported H.R. 3288 as an original measure, H. Rept. 111-218</p> <p>7/23/09: House passed H.R. 3288 by a vote of 256 - 168 (Roll no. 637).</p> <p>Senate 8/5/09: Senate Committee on Appropriations.</p>	USCCB has no formal position on the overall legislation; however, the USCCB supports the funding allocated for housing opportunities for those in need and low-income populations.	Monitoring

VI. DOMESTIC SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>Section 8 tenant-based vouchers and \$120 Million for the Section 8 project-based rental assistance account. Additionally, the legislation provides \$4.2 Billion for formula grants through the Community Development Block Grant program (CDBG) along with funding for housing for the elderly, and for the Homeless Assistance grant program.</p> <p>As passed by the Senate, H.R. 3288 includes \$16.34 billion in funding for Section 8 tenant-based vouchers and \$103 Million for the Section 8 project-based rental assistance account. Additionally, the Senate version would provide \$3.992 Billion for formula grants through the Community Development Block Grant program (CDBG) along with funding for housing for the elderly, and for the Homeless Assistance grant program.</p>	<p>9/17/09: Reported by Senator Murray with an amendment in the nature of a substitute. With written report No. 111-69. H.R. 3288 was passed by the Senate with an amendment by a vote of: 73 - 25. Record Vote Number: 287.</p>		

VII. COMMUNICATIONS

Low Power FM Radio

Bill Number/Sponsor/Current Description	Legislative History	USCCB Position	USCCB Activities
<p>H.R. 1147 Doyle(D-PA) The Local Community Radio Act of 2009</p> <p>As ordered reported, this legislation helps increase the number of Low Power FM radio stations in the United States.</p> <p>Low Power FM (LPFM) stations are noncommercial stations that operate at 100 watts or less - with a broadcast radius of approximately three to five miles. LPFM licenses are granted to high schools, churches, labor unions, nonprofits and civic organizations -- local institutions that understand the needs of their communities.</p>	<p>House</p> <p>2/24/09: H.R. 1147 was introduced and referred to the House Committee on Energy and Commerce.</p> <p>10/15/09: Ordered to be Reported (Amended) by Voice Vote.</p>	<p>USCCB supported this legislation</p>	<p>Lobbying Letters</p>