

**The Long Island Council of Churches
WEIGHS IN ON IMMIGRATION REFORM**

The LICC Board of Governors recently deliberated about the complex issues surrounding reform of our immigration laws and agreed on the following set of principles:

The Long Island Council of Churches Board of Governors raises its voice to join others who decry unjust treatment for immigrants and an abuse of our national character. As people of faith in Jesus Christ, we cannot ignore what seems to us an affront to the better angels of our nature: compassion, liberty and justice for all. We join ours with other religious voices and the many people of good will who are calling for a better way to go that consists with the best in our religious and national heritage. We support:

a temporary worker program for persons contributing to the U.S. economy rather

than a draconian deportation program

protection of human and worker rights rather than displaced blame and harassment

an appropriate path to citizenship and family unity rather than treating human

beings like pawns at our behest

a responsible role for law in national security rather than the added burden of

criminalizing persons trying to make a living and raise families

the humane practices of providing education and human resources rather than requiring

caring and compassionate persons to withhold the gifts of God for the people of God