

**National Council of the United States
Society of St. Vincent de Paul
Voice of the Poor
State/Diocesan Advocates Guide**

May 2019

FOUNDATIONS FOR ADVOCACY

Policy advocacy offers Vincentians the opportunity to use the deep knowledge of and experience gained from home visits to inform policy debates.

Advocacy is a central component of the Rule:

7.1 The Society gives immediate help but also seeks mid-term and long-term solutions.

...In all its charitable actions there should be a search for justice; in its struggle for justice, the Society must keep in mind the demands of charity.

7.5 A voice for the voiceless

The Society helps the poor and disadvantaged speak for themselves. When they cannot, the Society must speak on behalf of those who are ignored.

7.6 Facing the structures of sin

Where injustice, inequality, poverty or exclusion are due to unjust economic, political or social structure or to inadequate or unjust legislation, the Society should speak out clearly against the situation, always with charity, with the aim of contributing to and demanding improvements.

7.8 Political independence of the Society

The Society does not identify with any political party and always adopts a nonviolent approach....

Additionally, the current Strategic Plan (2018-21) calls Vincentians to:

3. Advocate for and work towards a more just world

G1: Inspire membership to embrace Catholic Social Teaching

G2: Establish SVDP as a thought leader on poverty and justice

G3: Be a Voice for the Poor at national, state and local levels

A) Engage Getting Ahead grads & other people with lived experience in advocacy

This guide will help Vincentian state and diocesan Voice of the Poor leaders organize state public policy advocacy campaigns, using the VoterVoice email software. The policy governs the use, administration, management, and process for VoterVoice advocacy consistent with established Voice of the Poor guidelines, as well as the Vincentian Rule and Manual.

This policy applies to all uses of VoterVoice by appointed Voice of the Poor state leaders, as well as National Voice of the Poor Committee members or National Council staff that may act on their behalf.

Each Council President is encouraged to appoint a diocesan VOP leader (see Diocesan/State Role description in Supporting Materials). In situations where there is more than one active Council in a state, the Presidents may agree to designate one person to chair the committee of Diocesan Leaders.

ENGAGING NEIGHBORS IN ADVOCACY

As noted above, the Strategic Plan calls for engaging people with lived experience in advocacy. This may be new for many. One simple step a conference can take toward this goal is to distribute VoterVoice sign up cards on a home visit (see Supporting Materials). This encourages those we serve to sign up to receive the alerts issued and respond, if they would like.

POLICY ISSUES FOR ADVOCACY

Like any other Vincentian endeavor, advocacy should enhance the friendship and spirituality of our members. That is best done when our issues directly relate to those that we see impacting the neighbors we serve. Specific positions taken should be supported by stories from home visits, special works, and other Vincentian activities.

The Society's close and special relationship to friends in need is its strength and most compelling reason for supporting specific policies.

In all cases, the State Leader should ensure that the proposed position is consistent with:

- Catholic Social Teaching
- The Rule and Manual of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul
svdpusa.org/members/Documents/Governance-in-A-Box
- Adopted Positions of the National Council
svdpusa.org/members/Programs-Tools/Programs/Voice-of-the-Poor/Position-Papers

In doing this, the State Leader can always seek the guidance and insight of the National Voice of the Poor Committee co-chairs, the National CEO or Director of Poverty Programs, the Region Spiritual Advisor, or other official.

Relationships with bishops and dioceses require particular consideration. The Society should strive to take positions consistent with, and work in collaboration with, the state Catholic Conference, while recognizing that the Society is independent. Issues should focus on the needs of the people we serve.

An issue can be deemed appropriate if the advocacy campaign is conducted in conjunction with the state Catholic Conference, or if a state Catholic Conference has a public position on the issue in the form of testimony; position paper; letter to legislators, the governor, or other public official; or published action alert.

If the state Catholic Conference has no position on an issue or takes the opposite position, the Society should take that into consideration, but should ultimately make a decision that reflects Vincentian discernment and independence.

ISSUE APPROVAL

Any Vincentian can suggest to his/her Council President or the VOP State Leader that the state program conduct an advocacy campaign on a particular issue.

Approval Process

1. The State Leader will share the issue and justification with the State Voice of the Poor Committee so that the Committee can make a recommendation to the highest elected officials within the state. If there is no state Committee, the State Leader makes the recommendation.
2. The State Leader will share a summary of the issue, the Committee's recommendation, and the proposed advocacy with all of the following representing areas wholly or partially located in the state:
 - (Arch)Diocesan Council Presidents
 - District Council Presidents
 - Isolated Conference President (if applicable)
 - Executive Directors

Executive Director(s) should be copied as a courtesy and so that they can share insights, however their approval is not necessary for a campaign to move forward.

3. Upon receiving the approval of these Vincentian leaders, the State Leader or someone previously involved in the approval process will complete the appropriate template (see Supporting Materials) and send it to the VoterVoice Authorized Users.

Ideally, the highest-ranking elected Vincentian from every Council and/or Isolated Conference (if applicable) will agree to the alert--unanimity makes our message more compelling and far reaching. In the event that one or more officials declines to support the campaign, the campaign can continue, but language that suggests all Vincentians in the state support it should be avoided.

4. Once the message has been completed in the VoterVoice system, an Authorized User will send a test email to the person who submitted it. The message will not be sent to the desired audience until the Authorized User has received confirmation that the message is approved.

Additional Notes

The State Leader should copy the Regional Vice President and the Regional Voice of the Poor leader on all communications and brief either if/when requested. The insight and guidance of both should be taken into consideration, but the approval of the RVP or the VOP Regional leader is not required to conduct an advocacy campaign.

Whether to conduct an advocacy campaign, the stated position, and the contents of communications, are the prerogative of the State Leader and the highest elected Vincentians in the state. The National President, National Voice of the Poor Committee co-chairs, CEO, and/or the National Director of Poverty Programs (or other designated staff liaison) will only raise a question when the recommended action or position appears to contradict Catholic Social Teaching, a position taken by a diocese or conference of bishops, or a position paper adopted by the National Council.

COMPLETING AN ALERT

The best Action Alerts and Informational Bulletins are brief and compelling, with a clear justification for the position taken, and should include the following components:

- a. Citation or Reference justifying the position (include links whenever possible). Examples include:
 - state Catholic conference or USCCB letters
 - SVdP Position Paper
 - Papal Encyclical
 - Pastoral Letter or Statement of a Bishop or state Catholic conference
- b. Concise summary of the “state of play”
- c. In the case of Action Alerts, a clear call to action--what to do and who to contact

It is critical that the template be filled out completely. The template is a reflection of the VoterVoice system. Incomplete or blank answers will require the administrator to return the completed form to the submitter, delaying the Alert.

Additionally, a completed form should include the properly spelled names and titles of all leaders supporting the alert.

CRITICISM AND RESPONSES

It is the prerogative of the State Leader, in coordination with the Signatories to the Action Alert or Informational Bulletin, to decide to respond to criticism. Vocal critics are rarely mollified, so close consideration should be given to the benefit to be gained by responding. If a response is warranted or desired, it should be courteous and civil.

MEDIA AND PUBLICIZING

Please share all press reports, blogs, or other media generated by the action alert, so that the national Voice of the Poor Committee can include it in promotional materials.

CONTACTS

Jack Murphy, National Voice of the Poor Committee Co-Chair
jack.murphy@att.net

Tom Mulloy, National Director of Poverty Programs
tmulloy@svdpusa.org
314-576-3993 x215

VOTERVOICE

We should always encourage people to sign up for VoterVoice and invite them to share the link with their networks. Use the following link to sign people up:

<https://votervoice.net/SVDPUSA/register>

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SUPPORTING MATERIALS

- I. Action Alert Template
- II. Informational Bulletin Template
- III. List of Regional Vice Presidents and VOP Leaders with Contact Information
- IV. List of State Leaders with Contact Information
- V. State Leader Role Description
- VI. Additional Resources and Potential Collaborators
- VII. VoterVoice Sign-up cards
- VIII. List of State Catholic Conferences with Contact Information

I. VOICE OF THE POOR VOTER VOICE ACTION ALERT TEMPLATE

Fill in all requested information (blue boxes). *Please be brief (sections will expand as you type).*

General Information

Issue/Subject

1-2 word description

Expiration Date

If you are unsure when a vote/action will be taken, allow sufficient time for the alert to remain active. (This can be changed/deactivated at any time.)

Filter Recipients

By default, Action Alerts go out to the entire network. If you would like to send the alert to a subset of the network, indicate below (e.g. just people in a specific geography, or just members represented by a specific legislator).

Headline (Also The Subject Line of Email)

Short, empowering, and to the point

Action Alert Text (Message Sent to Vincentian Network)

*Explain issue and what we want to do about it. Be as specific and concise as possible. Include Current Situation/Background/Context and links to SVdP Position Paper and/or Catholic Social Teaching, if available. *Must include names and titles of all signatories at bottom.**

Targeting Options

Whom will our supporters contact?

E.g. Governor, Lt. Governor, State Assembly Chamber, Attorney General, Secretary of State

Scope of Targeting

Is your Alert specific to a Committee or other subset of the larger group (e.g., sponsors of a specific bill)?

Select the Mode of Communication

Select only one

- Email Alert and Message (most popular)
 - Printable Letter
 - Phone Call Script (best for very time-sensitive advocacy, i.e. same day or within 72 hours)
 - Tweet
 - Facebook Post

Choose a Format for the Written Message

Select only one

- 1. Pre-written Message (Provides entire message for the advocate)
 - 2. Guidelines + Pre-written Message (Guidelines help the advocate customize the message)
 - 3. Guidelines + Blank Form (Helps the advocate compose their own message)
 - 4. Blank Form (Advocate composes their own message without assistance)

Topic

E.g. Immigration, Health Care, Food/Nutrition, etc.

Subject of Message

What the subject line of the email to the target will say

Compose the guidelines as you would like them to appear to the advocate

Only required if you chose Option 2 or 3 for format on the previous page

Compose the message as you would like it to appear to the targets

Some public officials limit the length of messages they will accept electronically. Be as brief as possible.

II. VOICE OF THE POOR VOTER VOICE INFORMATIONAL BULLETIN TEMPLATE

Fill in all requested information (blue boxes). **Please be brief (sections will expand as you type).**

Issue/Subject

1-2 word description

Filter Recipients

By default, Action Alerts go out to the entire network. If you would like to send the alert to a subset of the network, indicate below (e.g. just people in a specific state or smaller geography, or just members of a specific group).

Subject Line of Email

Message Text

*Be as specific and concise as possible. Include links to Position Papers, Catholic Social Teaching, or local news/context, if relevant and available. *Must include names and titles of all signatories at bottom.**

III. REGIONAL VICE PRESIDENTS AND REGIONAL VOICE OF THE POOR LEADERS

Northeast

RVP Irene Frechette VOP
svdpregne@outlook.com

East

RVP Alice Garvey VOP
redalice2006@gmail.com

Southeast

RVP Morgan Jellett VOP Jack Murphy
mjellett@aol.com jack.murphy@att.net

Mideast

RVP William Brazier VOP
wbrazier@svdpmideastregion.org

Midwest

RVP David Winslett VOP
davidwsvdp@icloud.com

North Central

RVP Tom Pelger
rvp@ncr-svdp.org

South Central

RVP Ray Dupont
rdupont@ieee.org

West

RVP John Hallissy VOP
jhallissy@svdp-sacramento.org

IV. STATE LEADER ROLE DESCRIPTION

Mission Statement

In the spirit of Christian love and justice, the Voice of the Poor Committee upholds Catholic values by researching, validating, documenting, advocating, and promulgating issues related to the condition of the poor and disenfranchised for the purpose of helping Vincentians to live their faith by acting knowledgeably and credibly as a unified body speaking with one voice for the purpose of building up the Kingdom of God.

Criteria for selecting issues:

- Close to the Heart of Vincentians
- Is there something positive we can do about it?
- Does the issue affect many/most of the people SVdP encounters?
- Probability of success?
- Application and consistency with Catholic Social Teaching

Duties

The Voice of the Poor State Leader (VOPSL) organizes the advocacy work of The Society at the state level through regular communication with the Regional VOP Leader. The State Leader collaborates with other like-minded advocacy organizations to identify state legislative issues of concern to Vincentians. The VOPSL enlists Vincentian support for those issues through e-mail alerts, webinars, and workshops. Vincentian advocacy must be present in the public political arena but it is always non-partisan.

Primary responsibilities are:

1. Track state legislation and communicate with local VOP representatives as well as Council, District, and Conference leaders in support or opposition to issues.
2. Spread Vincentian advocacy by increasing local Voice of the Poor Committees and leaders.
3. Identify like-minded organizations for collaboration.
4. In states with multiple Diocesan Councils/Districts, foster consensus to agree on a unified position on issues.
5. Attend appropriate Voice of the Poor calls and meetings.

Hence, those who are oppressed by poverty are the object of a preferential love on the part of the Church which, since her origin and in spite of the failings of many of her members, has not ceased to work for their relief, defense, and liberation through numerous works of charity which remain indispensable always and everywhere. (Catechism of the Catholic Church, No. 2448. 2nd Ed.)

- Due to the time sensitive nature of the legislative process, **the VOPSL must have regular access to email and be adept at creating & using email lists and electronic newsletters.**
- VOP should strive to take positions that reflect the unanimous approval of all Councils in a state. However, individuals are encouraged to take a personal stand on issues that reflect their personal views as well as Catholic teaching of the preferential treatment for the poor.

Characteristics of a Voice of the Poor Vincentian

*During Pope John Paul II's first visit to the United States, he commended American Catholics for their generosity in supporting the Church's charitable works that minister to persons in need. "But this is not enough," the pope said. Christians in cooperation with others must "seek the structural reasons which cause poverty . . . Do not recoil before the reforms--even profound ones--of attitudes and structures that are necessary to create over and over again the conditions needed by the disadvantaged if they are to have a fresh chance in the hard struggles of life."
(http://usccb.org/cchd/pope_xcerpts.shtml)*

1. Willing to share time, talent and love.
2. Recognize the unique perspective and stories that The Society brings to the political landscape.
3. Exhibit flexibility and willingness to analyze, discuss, and communicate facets of social concerns by working in the spirit of Vincentian friendship. Exhibit openness to others and their opinions.
7. Understand the duty of the Voice of the Poor Committee in upholding the Rule and mission of the Society of St. Vincent de Paul.
8. Individual who upholds gospel values, with a desire to serve Jesus by the examples of St. Vincent de Paul, St. Louise de Marillac, Blessed Rosalie Rendu, and Blessed Frederic Ozanam.

"As followers of Christ, we cannot fail to be concerned for the welfare of the weakest; we must also draw the attention of society and the civil authorities to their plight." (Pope Francis, 2/7/15)

"We need to participate for the common good. Sometimes we hear: a good Catholic is not interested in politics. This is not true: good Catholics immerse themselves in politics by offering the best of themselves so that the leader can govern." (Pope Francis, 9/16/13)

Rule 7 Advocacy Activities

RELATIONSHIP WITH CIVIL SOCIETY -WORK FOR SOCIAL JUSTICE

Rule	Explanation	How you and your conference can be advocates
<p>7.1 The Society gives immediate help but also seeks mid-term and long-term solutions</p>	<p>The Society is concerned not only with alleviating need but also with identifying the unjust structures that cause it. It is, therefore, committed to identifying the root causes of poverty and to contributing to their elimination. In all its charitable actions there should be a search for justice; in its struggle for justice, the Society must keep in mind the demands of charity.</p>	<p>Spend time budgeting with neighbors in need to look for THEIR mid & long term solutions.</p> <p>Discuss similarities in cases to find common causes of needs in your area. Share these with the Voice of the Poor Committee.</p>
<p>7.2 A vision of the civilization of love</p>	<p>Affirming the dignity of each human being as created in God's image, and Jesus' particular identification with those who are excluded by society, Vincentians envision a more just society in which the rights, responsibilities and development of all people are promoted. As citizens of one world, Vincentians listen to the voice of the Church which demands their participation in creating a more equitable and compassionate social order, promoting the culture of life and the civilization of love. In this way, the Society shares the Church's mission to evangelize the world through visible witness, in both actions and words.</p>	<p>Educate your parish about the situations your neighbors in need face. Without revealing any names, breaking confidences, or sensationalizing neighbors' stories, become a Voice of the Poor to your parish.</p>
<p>7.3 Vision of the future</p>	<p>The Society's vision goes beyond the immediate future, looking towards sustainable development and protection of the environment for the benefit of future generations.</p>	<p>Teach basic budgeting classes at apartment complexes that have a lot of requests from neighbors in need.</p> <p>Recruit parishioners for this activity to find experts while building Vincentians for the future.</p>
<p>7.4 The practical Vincentian approach to social justice</p>	<p>The distinctive approach of Vincentians to issues of social justice is to see them from the perspective of those we visit who suffer from injustice.</p>	<p>When talking about issues, take care to put aside your personal views to reflect the needs of neighbors in need.</p>
<p>7.5 A voice for the voiceless</p>	<p>The Society helps the poor and disadvantaged speak for themselves. When they cannot, the Society must speak on behalf of those who are ignored.</p>	<p>Talk about our organization when dropping off payments to apartment & utility people. Let them know about the work that we do.</p> <p>Invite apartment/utility managers to a meeting. Let them learn more about our work.</p>

<p>7.6 Facing the structures of sin</p>	<p>Where injustice, inequality, poverty or exclusion are due to unjust economic, political or social structures or to inadequate or unjust legislation, the Society should speak out clearly against the situation, always with charity, with the aim of contributing to and demanding improvements.</p>	<p>Take on a project to change reconnect fee policies with local utility.</p> <p>Call a city council person or county commissioner to ask about his or her ideas to deal with homelessness, substandard housing, challenges of the working poor, etc. Get to know them.</p>
<p>7.7 Striving to change attitudes</p>	<p>Vincentians oppose discrimination of all kinds and work to change the attitudes of those who view the weak or those who are different with prejudice, fear or scorn, attitudes which gravely wound the dignity of others.</p> <p>The Society strives, with charity, to foster new attitudes of respect and empathy for the weak, so that all are able to understand, recognize and defend the right of each person to be responsible for his or her own life. The Society promotes understanding, cooperation and mutual love among people of different cultures, religions, ethnic origins and social groups, and so contributes to the peace and unity of all peoples.</p>	<p>Invite a neighbor in need to a meeting to share his or her story.</p> <p>Recruit neighbors in need to become Vincentians.</p>
<p>7.8 Political independence of the Society</p>	<p>The Society does not identify with any political party and always adopts a non-violent approach.</p> <p>It is good that some members follow and fully participate in their political vocation in such a way that they bring Christian values to political matters. Those members who hold political offices will be asked, always with charity, not to hold any mission of representation in the Society during their term of political office.</p>	<p>Know that when you support a candidate, you do so as an individual - - not as a representative of the Society. However, you are encouraged to give a preferential consideration of our neighbors needs when forming your conscience.</p>
<p>7.9 Working with communities</p>	<p>The Society should work not only with individuals in need but also with families and communities. It can help an excluded or deprived local community to develop a sense of responsibility and solidarity which leads it to improve its economic, social or environmental well-being, always retaining the personal contact of members with those who suffer.</p>	<p>Find other groups (church's, agencies, etc.) who help those in need and learn about what they do and how they help.</p>

V. STATE VOP LEADERS

AL			
AK	John Hallinan	John@SVdPAanchorage.org	(Informal)
AZ	Giulio Grecchi	ggrecchi@aol.com	(Informal)
AR			
CA			
CO	Corky Thompson	corkytreacy@comcast.net	
CT			
DE	Lynne Betts	Lynne03betts@gmail.com	(Informal)
DC	Tony Bosnick	ajbosnick@gmail.com	
FL			
GA	Jack Murphy	jack.murphy@att.net	(Informal)
HI			
ID	Kelly Anderson	kelly.anderson@svdpid.org	(Informal)
IL	Pamela Matambanadzo	pam.matambanadzo@gmail.com	(Informal)
	Mary Anne Michelet	maryannemichelet@hotmail.com	(Informal)
IN	Maria Gonzalez	marialena1940@aol.com	
IA			
KN			
KY	David Dutschke	djdutschke@gmail.com	
LA			
ME			
MD	Tony Bosnick	ajbosnick@gmail.com	
MA	Tom Dwyer	tdwyerma6@gmail.com	(Informal)
MI	Bobby Kinkela	bkinkela@gmail.com	
MN			
MS			
MO	Steve Polk	steve@stormwater-stl.net	(Informal)
MT			
NE	Robert Haller	mshortt@inebraska.com	(Informal)
NV			
NH			
NJ			
NM			
NY			
NC			
ND			
OH	Warren Wright	joannwarrenwright@yahoo.com	(Informal)
OK			
OR			
PA	Matt Walker	mjwalker74@gmail.com	(Informal)
RI			
SC			
SD			
TN			
TX			
UT			
VT			
VA			
WA	Michael Stratton	michaelstrattonsvdp.vop@gmail.com	
WI	Marian Lamoureux	marianlamoureux@gmail.com	
WV			
WY			

VI. ADDITIONAL RESOURCES AND POTENTIAL COLLABORATORS

Starting and Sustaining a Voice of the Poor Committee

Manual: svdpusa.org/Portals/1/Starting%20a%20VOP%20Document.pdf

Webinar: societyofsaintvincent.adobeconnect.com/pbvp7ic9n50r/

Position Papers: svdpusa.org/members/Programs-Tools/Programs/Voice-of-the-Poor/Position-Papers

Webinars: svdpusa.org/members/Programs-Tools/Programs/Voice-of-the-Poor/What-Has-Been-Accomplished

Potential Organizational Collaborators

Building strategic partnerships with aligned organizations is critical to advancing our work. In creating these partnerships, it is important to keep in mind that, above all, we are Catholic. Sometimes organizations have other positions that make it difficult for us to be faithful Catholic partners. We should never collaborate with groups that advocate positions in conflict with Catholic teaching.

Catholic

- Most states have Catholic conferences of bishops, which act as the voice of the Church on state policy issues. Locate your state Catholic conference here: nasccd.org/
- The Catholic Campaign for Human Development is the domestic antipoverty program of the Catholic bishops of the United States. Get connected with CCHD-funded groups in your area here: povertyusa.org
- Many dioceses have social action offices that coordinate activities related to Catholic Social Teaching. Find the contact information for your diocese here: uscgb.org/about/bishops-and-dioceses/all-dioceses.cfm

Policy-Based

- The Center on Budget and Policy Priorities, a national organization committed to advancing federal policy that fights poverty, hunger, and inequality, has a well-developed network of organizations doing this important work in state capitals. Find your state affiliate here: statepriorities.org/
- The Economic Analysis Research Network (EARN) has state and local partners that support policies that raise wages, protect workers, and reduce poverty: earn.us/directory/#national
- The Center for Responsible Lending works to fight payday lending, predatory student loans, discriminatory mortgage lending, and other consumer financial security issues: responsiblelending.org/states
- Faith-based community-organizing groups empower people struggling to survive to be voices for change in their communities. See which groups are active in your area:

Interfaith Worker Justice: iwj.org/affiliates

PICO National Network: piconetwork.org/find

Industrial Areas Foundation (IAF): industrialareasfoundation.org/affiliate-members

Gamaliel Foundation: gamaliel.org/Contact/USMap.aspx

Direct Action and research Training (DART): thedartcenter.org/about/location/

- The National Low-Income Housing Coalition has partners that support the quantity and quality of affordable housing: nlihc.org/partners/state

VII. VOTERVOICE SIGN UP CARDS

Note: Just add your information to one card and the others will be populated automatically. To add your logo just once, right click on any placeholder logo and select "Change Picture" to select your image file. After you add the image, click anywhere else on the page and your logo will appear in all cards.

				
YOUR NAME Title	YOUR NAME Title	YOUR NAME Title	YOUR NAME Title	YOUR NAME Title
PLEASE ADD YOUR VOICE TO OURS Email Web Address	PLEASE ADD YOUR VOICE TO OURS Go to Web Address	PLEASE ADD YOUR VOICE TO OURS Email Web Address	PLEASE ADD YOUR VOICE TO OURS Email Web Address	PLEASE ADD YOUR VOICE TO OURS Email Web Address
				
YOUR NAME Title	YOUR NAME Title	YOUR NAME Title	YOUR NAME Title	YOUR NAME Title
PLEASE ADD YOUR VOICE TO OURS Email Web Address	PLEASE ADD YOUR VOICE TO OURS Email Web Address	PLEASE ADD YOUR VOICE TO OURS Email Web Address	PLEASE ADD YOUR VOICE TO OURS Email Web Address	PLEASE ADD YOUR VOICE TO OURS Email Web Address

VIII. STATE CATHOLIC CONFERENCES

Alaska Catholic Conference	225 Cordova Street Anchorage, AK 99501-	(907) 297-7744	https://www.archdioceseofanchorage.org/other-catholic-resources/alaska-catholic-conference-of-bishops/
Arizona Catholic Conference	400 East Monroe St. Phoenix, AZ 85004-2336	(602) 354-2390	https://dphx.org/acc-2016-primary-election-voters-guide-online-now/
California Catholic Conference	1119 K St., 2nd FL Sacramento, CA 95814	(916) 443-4851	https://www.cacatholic.org/
Colorado Catholic Conference	1535 Logan St. Denver, CO 80203-1913	(303) 894-8808	https://www.cocatholicconference.org/
Connecticut Catholic Conference	134 Farmington Avenue Hartford, CT 06105-3784	(860) 524-7882	http://ctcatholic.org/
Delaware-Diocese of Wilmington	P.O. Box 7304 Wilmington, DE 19803-	(302) 294-2060	https://www.cdow.org/
DC Catholic Conference	5001 Eastern Avenue Hyattsville, MD 20782-	(301) 853-5342	https://dccathcon.org/
Florida Catholic Conference	201 West Park Ave Tallahassee, FL 32301	(850) 205-6820	https://www.flacathconf.org/
Georgia Catholic Conference	3600 Mansell Rd., Suite 300 Alpharetta, GA 30022	(770) 521-8799	https://georgiacc.org/
Hawaii Catholic Conference	6301 Pali Hwy Kaneohe, HI 96744	(808) 203-6735	https://www.catholicahawaii.org/
Idaho-Diocese of Boise	13347 W. Blueball Dr. Boise, ID 83713	(208) 426-3184	https://www.catholicidaho.org/
Catholic Conference of Illinois	65 E. Wacker Place, Suite 1620 Chicago, IL 60601-7296	(312) 368-1066	https://www.ilcatholic.org/
Indiana Catholic Conference	1400 N. Meridian St. Indianapolis, IN 46206	(317) 236-1455	http://www.indianacc.org/
Iowa Catholic Conference	530 42nd St. Des Moines, IA 50312-2707	(515) 243-6256	http://iowacatholicconference.org/
Kansas Catholic Conference	204 SW 8th Ave Topeka, KS 66603-	(785) 371-0102	https://kansascatholic.org/
Catholic Conference of Kentucky	1042 Burlington Ln. Frankfort, KY 40601	(502) 875-4345	http://ccky.org/
Louisiana Conference of Catholic Bishops	3423 Hundred Oaks Ave Baton Rouge, LA 70808	(225) 344-7120	http://www.laccb.org/
Maine-Diocese of Portland	510 Ocean Ave. Portland, ME 04104	(207) 773-6471	http://www.faithfulcitizenme.org/?0
Maryland Catholic Conference	10 Francis Street Annapolis, MD 21401-2515	(410) 261-1155	https://www.mdccatholic.org/

Massachusetts Catholic Conference	66 Brooks Drive Braintree, MA 02184	(617) 746-5630	https://www.macatholic.org/
Michigan Catholic Conference	510 South Capitol Ave Lansing, MI 48933	(517) 372-9310	http://www.micatholic.org/
Minnesota Catholic Conference	475 University Ave W., Ste. B St. Paul, MN 55103-1996	(651) 227-8777	https://www.mncatholic.org/
Missouri Catholic Conference	600 Clark Ave, Jefferson City, MO 65102	(573) 635-7239	https://mocatholic.org/
Montana Catholic Conference	1301 11th Ave. Helena, MT 59624	(406) 442-5761	http://www.montanacc.org/
Nebraska Catholic Conference	215 Centennial Mall South, # 310 Lincoln, NE 68508-1813	(402) 477-7517	https://necatholic.org/
Nevada Catholic Conference	290 S. Arlington Ave, Suite 200 Reno, NV 89501-1713	(775) 684-9029	
New Hampshire-Diocese of Manchester	153 Ash St. Manchester, NH 03105-0310	(603) 663-0148	https://www.catholicnh.org/community/public-issues/
New Jersey Catholic Conference	149 North Warren Street Trenton, NJ 08608	(609) 989-1120	https://njcatholic.org/
New Mexico Conference of Catholic Bishops	P.O. Box 3243 Los Lunas, NM 87031-	(505) 319-3334	https://archdiosf.org/take-action
New York Catholic Conference	465 State St. Albany, NY 12203-1004	(518) 434-6195	https://www.nyscatholic.org/
North Carolina-Diocese of Raleigh	715 Nazareth St. Raleigh, NC 27606	(919) 821-9752	https://dioceseofraleigh.org/
North Dakota Catholic Conference	103 South 3rd St, Ste. 10 Bismarck, ND 58501	(701) 223-2519	http://ndcatholic.org/
Ohio Catholic Conference	9 East Long St., Suite 201 Columbus, OH 43215	(614) 224-7147	https://www.ohiocathconf.org/
Catholic Conference of Oklahoma	1232 Classen Boulevard Oklahoma City, OK 73106	(888) 514-1135	http://www.okcatholic.org/
Oregon Catholic Conference	2838 E. Burnside Street Portland, OR 97214	(503) 233-8331	https://archdpdx.org/oregon-catholic-conference
Pennsylvania Catholic Conference	223 North Street Harrisburg, PA 17105-2835	(717) 238-9613	https://www.pacatholic.org/
Rhode Island-Diocese of Providence	184 Broad St. Providence, RI 02903	(401) 421-7833	https://dioceseofprovidence.org/ri-catholic-conference-faithful-citizenship

South Carolina Catholic Conference	901 Orange Grove Road Charleston, SC 29407	(843) 261- 0535	https://charlestdiocese.org/south-carolina-catholic-conference/
South Dakota Catholic Conference	PO Box 1205 Sioux Falls, SD 57101		http://www.sdcatholicconference.org/
Tennessee Catholic Public Policy Commission	128 Allendale Dr. Nashville, TN 37205	(615) 356- 8184	https://www.tncppc.org/
Texas Catholic Conference	1600 N. Congress Ave., Suite B Austin, TX 78701	(512) 339- 9882	https://txcatholic.org/
Virginia Catholic Conference	830 East Main St., Suite 302 Richmond, VA 23219	(804) 225- 8565	https://vacatholic.org/
Washington Catholic Conference	710 9th Avenue Seattle, WA 98104-	(206) 301- 0556	https://wacatholics.org
Catholic Conference of West Virginia	1116 Kanawha Blvd. East Charleston, WV 25301-	(304) 342- 8175	www.catholicconferencewv.org
Wisconsin Catholic Conference	131 W. Wilson St, Suite 1105 Madison, WI 53703	(608) 257- 0004	http://www.wisconsinatholic.org/
Wyoming-Diocese of Cheyenne	2121 Capitol Avenue Cheyenne, WY 82001	(307) 638- 1530	http://legislative.dioceseofcheyenne.org/