



**Indiana
Catholic
Conference**

~JOIN I-CAN~

INDIANA
CATHOLIC
ACTION
NETWORK

What is the Indiana Catholic Conference?

The ICC, the public policy voice of the Catholic Church in Indiana, consists of a Board of Directors, professional staff, diocesan coordinators, and **active Catholics like you**. The Board includes the Bishop and one layperson from each of the five Indiana dioceses.

Since 1967, Indiana Catholic Conference (ICC) has spoken for the Church on both state and national issues. The Indiana Catholic Action Network (I-CAN) provides for Catholics, as citizens, to be more involved in shaping legislation.

ICC's involvement in the political arena comes from the belief that life is sacred and that all people have a responsibility to respect the dignity of life and to work for the common good of all.

In the Catholic Tradition responsible citizenship is more than voting. Everyone has a moral obligation to take an active part in public life and to promote the common good.

We are called to bring together our principles and our political choices, our values and our votes, to help build a better world.” **Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship**, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2011

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Together we can make a difference.

Shaping public policy is the responsibility of **every person**. Our democratic form of government and our Catholic Church both call us to become involved.

The Church is not trying to form a religious voting block...nor tell people how to vote. But it is analyzing political issues from a social and moral point of view. Now, through the Indiana Catholic Action Network (I-CAN), you and other Catholics can have a direct impact on legislative action.

“As Catholics, we should be guided more by our moral convictions than by our attachment to a political party or interest group.” **Faithful Citizenship A Catholic Call to Political Responsibility**, United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, 2011

How does I-CAN work?

Issues important to the Church are selected by the Indiana Catholic Conference (ICC) Board of Directors. The ICC staff analyzes issues and drafts a position statement based on the teachings of the Church as well as pertinent secular information.

During the Indiana Legislative Session, information is sent electronically to I-CAN members in weekly I-CAN Updates. Each Update lists the weekly activities of the House and Senate on the issues that the ICC is following. Additional information is also available on the ICC website at www.indianacc.org

“I-CAN Action Alerts” are also sent out from time to time letting members know about a vote on a key issue/bill and how to contact their legislator(s).

How can I join I-CAN?

1) Simply go to the Indiana Catholic Conference (ICC) website at www.indianacc.org and click on the Sign Up Now link.

2) Enter the required information and you will now receive our I-CAN Updates via email.

As an I-CAN member you have quick easy access to the President of the United States, members of Congress, state lawmakers and the governor. Through a few simple steps, you can share your Catholic views on important issues such as abortion, immigration reform, embryonic stem cell research, health care reform, education, euthanasia, same-sex marriage and the preferential treatment of the poor just to name a few.

Now that I am an I-CAN member, what should I do?

1) Read the I-CAN materials to stay informed.

2) Contact your legislator by using the Legislative Action Center to voice your reasons for supporting or opposing an issue.

3) Act on I-CAN Action Alerts emailed to you from the ICC. Alerts are also posted on the ICC website at www.indianacc.org and clicking the Legislative Action Center tab.

4) Offer feedback to the ICC staff regarding issues, positions and alerts.