



NEWS ALERT

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CAPITAL REGION COMMUNITIES JOIN NATIONAL WEEKEND OF PRAYER AND ACTION FOR IMMIGRANT JUSTICE

As Arizona's new immigration law is scheduled to take effect, a vigil of resistance and solidarity with immigrant communities will call for federal immigration reform

WHAT: Through prayer, song and testimony, participants at the **Vigil of Resistance to Arizona's Immigration Law** will lift up the experiences of local immigrants, illustrate the complex causes of immigration and demand a just solution to the broken immigration system that gave rise to SB-1070. The law would make the failure to carry immigration documents a crime and give police broad power to detain anyone suspected of being in the country without papers.

WHO: **Maureen Casey**, International Project Coordinator, Labor-Religion Coalition of New York State
Rev. Brooke Newell, Adirondack Area Labor-Religion Coalition
Fred Bohrer, of New Sanctuary for Immigrants, Albany area
Mary Sullivan, President, Capital District Area Labor Federation
Gustavo Santos, Albany Immigration Task Force
Guillermo Perez, Labor Council for Latin American Advancement, Albany/ CD Chapter
Additional co-sponsors include The Albany Catholic Worker Community, Capital District Labor-Religion Coalition, New York Citizens Trade Coalition, Women Against War, Albany area & the New York Civil Liberties Union, Capital Region Chapter.

WHERE: Holy Family Church, 283 Central Avenue in Albany.

WHEN: Thursday, July 29, 6 – 7:30 PM

WHY: Arizona's draconian immigration law is scheduled to be implemented on July 29, 2010. Although this date is now uncertain in light of the federal government lawsuit challenging the law, plans continue for a Day of Non-Compliance and Protest as well as a July 29-Aug. 1 weekend of prayer and action for immigration reform. At least twenty states are contemplating or have introduced similar punitive, anti-immigrant legislation and Arizona has experienced an outpouring of financial support to fight the federal suit. As people of faith and concern, one response we can make is to gather prayerfully to express our resistance to the law and our solidarity with immigrants throughout the land and to demand comprehensive immigration reform from Congress and the President.

Since 1997, the **Labor-Religion Coalition's International Project** has been taking groups of people to the United States/ Mexico border to learn about the global economy and the complex causes of immigration. Nearly 400 New Yorkers have traveled with Labor-Religion groups to see first-hand the effects of NAFTA-like policies and how they contribute to immigration globally. More at www.labor-religion.org.

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