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March 2, 2017

President Donald Trump
The White House
1600 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW
Washington, DC 20500

Dear Mr. President:

We, the undersigned, pray for you and the significant responsibilities you carry on behalf of our nation. One of those responsibilities concerns what to do about undocumented immigrants.

We respect that there are many layers of interest and political persuasions that enter the long-standing debate regarding millions of undocumented immigrants who live in our nation. We do not write to you with a political agenda or proposal. Nor do we advocate that violating law to enter the country is acceptable. Rather, we are concerned about how parents and children could be divided in a quest to deport undocumented immigrants.

Our request is for compassion to be exercised regarding undocumented immigrants who have been living peacefully in the United States and abiding by our laws, but whose deportation would pull them away from their children who are citizens. Our care is about how we treat families, in keeping with Leviticus 19:33-34 (NIV): *When a foreigner resides among you in your land, do not mistreat them. The foreigner residing among you must be treated as your native-born. Love them as yourself, for you were foreigners in Egypt. I am the LORD your God.*

Mr. President, you have stated that the deportation priority will be gang members and others who have engaged in criminal acts. We call upon you, in tandem with that objective, to also prioritize taking care to not split and divide families whose members have been abiding by the law. We ask you to implement directives to immigration supervisory personnel, agents in the field, and law enforcement that deliver clear guidance and accountability for adhering to a priority to not divide families.

Respectfully Submitted,

Rev. Randall A. Bach
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