

Action Sheet

July 2025

*“Have no anxiety at all, but in everything, by prayer and petition, with thanksgiving, make your requests known to God. Then the peace of God that surpasses all understanding will guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus.”
—Philippians 4:6-7*

TAKE ACTION: TELL YOUR SENATORS TO PROTECT LIFE BY OPPOSING RESCISSIONS

The first half of 2025 has been challenging, and changes are occurring rapidly. In such times, we can turn to the guidance in Philippians 4 to allow space for the peace of God to remove our anxieties and provide the fortitude to act on our prayers and petitions. The call of the Gospel of Life is to be tireless in our efforts to serve our global family and protect the dignity of all people.

This action sheet asks CRS Chapters and Clubs to inspire their members of the Senate to oppose rescinding funding for lifesaving and life-affirming humanitarian aid and development programs. The Rescissions Act of 2025 narrowly passed through the House on June 6 by a [vote of 214-212](#). Senators must hear from their constituents that Catholics in the U.S. oppose the direction the country is moving to reduce our global and pro-life leadership role in humanitarian assistance.

Our Priority Ask

We urge Congress to protect human life and dignity around the world by opposing rescissions of funds for lifesaving and life-affirming international assistance and robustly funding poverty-reducing budget lines in the fiscal year 2026 appropriations.

Action Steps

Reflect on your story. Before drafting your email or letter, consider the unique power your voice has in communicating about this issue. Your Senate members have access to the facts and figures, but they need to hear the stories of charity and love that inspire you to dedicate your time, talent and treasure to supporting CRS. Use the questions below to guide your reflection.

- Why do you care passionately about lifesaving international assistance?
- Why does the voice of Catholics matter when it comes to defending international assistance?
- Can you describe a time when you witnessed international assistance helping a person or a community?
- Why should your senators care about international assistance? How can you craft your story to inspire them?

Visit your members’ websites. Determine what stories and information will attract their attention. Review pages like About or Bio, Committees and the Issues pages for foreign affairs, agriculture, federal spending and life issues. Then, look for how your senators prefer to receive emails. They might want you to email a specific address or use a form on their website. If you have recently been in contact with a staff member in the office, consider reaching out to them directly to continue building your relationship.

Introduce yourself. Share your name and that you are a constituent. Show your connection to your local community (e.g., “I am active in my local parish” or “I volunteer at our local food bank”). Explain how this issue connects to your faith and matters to you. If you have recently published an LTE or Op-Ed, mention it here. The first two reflection questions can guide this part of your letter.

Advocacy Tip: You play a unique role with your members of Congress because you have a connection to and represent the thoughts and feelings of their constituents.

Thank your senator(s) for their recent action. A senator or staffer is more likely to engage with your message if you start with a genuine expression of thanks. Thank your member for a recent meeting, a statement or action related to reducing global poverty or for their dedication to serving your state or district.

Make the ask. Use the following wording to express the ask explicitly and accurately:

We urge Congress to protect human life and dignity around the world by opposing rescissions of funds for lifesaving and life-affirming international assistance and robustly funding poverty-reducing budget lines in the fiscal year 2026 appropriations.

Support the ask. Reflection questions three and four can help you customize your letter. Additionally, use the information you gathered from your website research and the background information found on CRS's [Congressional Visits page](#) to supplement your story. Remember, no member of Congress aligns completely with Catholic teaching, but identifying shared views can help you build a relationship with your members and their staff.

Close your message with respect and gratitude. In your closing paragraph, repeat the ask, request that the office respond and express thanks for their time and attention. Under your name, include your address, phone number and email address so the office can reply to your advocacy.

AMPLIFY YOUR ACTION

Inspire your network with your story and share the [CRS Action Alert](#) to mobilize your community to action.

LOG YOUR ACTION

Log your action on the [CRS Chapter Community site](#) or on the How to Advocate page [on crs.org](#).

BACKGROUND

Visit the [Congressional Visits page](#) on the CRS website for background information, state of play updates and additional resources to inform your advocacy.

CLOSING PRAYER

Immaculate Heart of Mary, help us to conquer the menace of evil ... *Continue with the Prayer for Deliverance from Evil.*

Reflect

- At the beginning of the prayer, St. John Paul II recognizes the weight of despair many of us feel during trying times. How do you retain hope amid this struggle? Where do you see the “power of merciful love” in your life?
- Our faith teaches us that we have active roles in our own salvation. As you request our Mother Mary’s intercession against the powers of evil, what steps can you take to “reveal the light of hope” for all people?

Prayer for Deliverance from Evil

Immaculate Heart of Mary, help us to conquer the menace of evil,
which so easily takes root in the hearts of the people of today,
and whose immeasurable effects already weigh down upon our modern world
and seem to block the paths toward the future.

From famine and war, deliver us.
From nuclear war, from incalculable self-destruction, from every kind of war, deliver us.
From sins against human life from its very beginning, deliver us.
From hatred and from the demeaning of the dignity of the children of God, deliver us.
From every kind of injustice in the life of society, both national and international, deliver us.
From readiness to trample on the commandments of God, deliver us.
From attempts to stifle in human hearts the very truth of God, deliver us.
From the loss of awareness of good and evil, deliver us.
From sins against the Holy Spirit, deliver us.

Accept, O Mother of Christ,
this cry laden with the sufferings of all individual human beings,
laden with the sufferings of whole societies.
Help us with the power of the Holy Spirit to conquer all sin:
individual sin and the "sin of the world,"
sin in all its manifestations.

Let there be revealed once more in the history of the world
the infinite saving power of the redemption: the power of merciful love.
May it put a stop to evil.
May it transform consciences.
May your Immaculate Heart reveal for all the light of hope.

Amen

Written by St. John Paul II