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Statement on Cardinal George's death from the staff of the Catholic Conference of Illinois

CHICAGO – The staff of the Catholic Conference of Illinois is greatly saddened by the news of the death of Cardinal George. He served as chairman of the Catholic Conference from his installation as Archbishop of Chicago in May 1997 until his retirement in November 2014.

“I was very sorry to learn of Cardinal George’s death,” said Executive Director Robert Gilligan. “I had the great privilege of working with Cardinal George for over 15 years. He was one of the most holy and intelligent men I have ever met. He was my boss, but also an important mentor, and I dare say, my friend. I will miss him greatly.”

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The Catholic Conference of Illinois was created in 1969 to serve as the public policy voice of the Illinois bishops and the six dioceses of the state: Belleville, Chicago, Joliet, Peoria, Rockford and Springfield-in-Illinois.