



Statement of Cardinal Blase J. Cupich, Archbishop of Chicago, on Governor Rauner's Veto Promise

April 19, 2017

Last Friday, Governor Rauner promised to veto House Bill 40. This legislation, which is pending in the General Assembly, would use public dollars, through Illinois' Medicaid and employee health insurance programs, to fund elective abortions at any stage of pregnancy for any reason. I thank him for this principled stand. Abortion is a controversial issue in this country, but using public money to provide abortions should not be. The federal government prohibits the practice, and polls show a substantial segment of the American public reject it.

I pray that this divisive issue will be put behind us and our government officials will now concentrate on the many difficult challenges facing Illinois. Most importantly, our political leaders must find a way to cooperate and craft a budget that serves all our people. It is essential that we unite in this effort, and I stand ready to help in any way.

###

Contact:

Colleen Tunney-Ryan
Director of Public Relations
Archdiocese of Chicago
312.534.8227
coryan@archchicago.org