

65 East Wacker Place • Suite 1620  
Chicago, Illinois 60601  
(312) 368-1066  
FAX (312) 368-1090



108 East Cook Street  
Springfield, Illinois 62704  
(217) 528-9200  
FAX (217) 528-7214

Catholic Conference of Illinois Urges Senate Passage of Senate Bill 3539  
**Abolition of the Death Penalty**  
January 11, 2011

We, the undersigned Catholic Bishops in Illinois, commend the Illinois House for its approval of Senate Bill 3539 to abolish the death penalty. As the bill now goes to the Illinois Senate for consideration, we urge Senators to follow the lead of their colleagues in the Illinois House in supporting this important legislation.

The end of the death penalty in Illinois advances the development of a culture of life in our state, a state that remains a haven for those who kill unborn children.

Society's need to protect itself no longer requires capital punishment. Furthermore, we know that no justice system is perfect and there can be no guarantee that the death penalty will never again be imposed on an innocent life.

*Francis Cardinal George*

His Eminence Francis Cardinal George, O.M.I.  
Archbishop of Chicago

+ *Thomas G. Doran*

Most Reverend Thomas G. Doran  
Bishop of Rockford

+ *Daniel R. Jenky*

Most Reverend Daniel R. Jenky, C.S.C.  
Bishop of Peoria

+ *Edward K. Braxton*

Most Reverend Edward K. Braxton  
Bishop of Belleville

+ *Joseph M. Siegel*

Most Reverend Joseph M. Siegel  
Auxiliary Bishop of Joliet

+ *Thomas John Paprocki*

Most Reverend Thomas John Paprocki  
Bishop of Springfield-in-Illinois