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DIOCESE OF ROCKFORD

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PRESS RELEASE

Bishop David J. Malloy Responds to Supreme Court Decision

on the Affordable Care Act

ROCKFORD, IL—Bishop David J. Malloy, Bishop of the 11 county Catholic Diocese of Rockford, issued the following statement today after the United States Supreme Court issued a decision to uphold the Affordable Care Act (ACA) as a tax provision that requires individuals to purchase a health plan—the so-called "individual mandate."

"The Diocese of Rockford continues to stand with the Catholic Bishops of the United States, who for years, have advocated for access to life-affirming health care for all people, especially the very poor and the very vulnerable," Bishop Malloy said.

He continued, "The Diocese of Rockford also continues to stand firm in our Catholic teaching and the right to express and practice that teaching in our daily lives both inside and outside the walls of our churches."

"Today, the Supreme Court upheld the Affordable Health Care Act as constitutional. The Rockford Diocese, along with the United States Conference of Catholic Bishops, will continue to study the court's opinion to understand its full implications and what impact it will have on our religious liberty. We will also continue to work and pray for a resolution to those areas of the Affordable Care Act that are inconsistent with our teaching, may serve to violate our Catholic consciences and may interfere with our ability to serve those in need whether they share our faith or not."

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE **END**