

Ecumenical Advocacy Days Leave Behind: Protecting People, Peace, and Planet

Ecumenical Advocacy Days (EAD) is an annual gathering of the ecumenical Christian community to strengthen our Christian voice and mobilize to advocate for policies that uphold the God-given dignity of every person. For more than 20 years, Christians have come to our nation's capital to raise their voices for justice. This year, participants are advocating for the protection of people, peace, and planet based on the scripture verse Psalm 24:1-3.

“The earth is the Lord’s, and everything in it, the world, and all who live in it; for he founded it on the seas and established it on the waters. Who may ascend the mountain of the Lord? Who may stand in his holy place?”

Protecting People: As Christians, we are called to welcome the sojourner and take the side of those at risk of facing state-sanctioned violence. Members of Congress have a moral imperative to refuse to allocate any additional funding for immigration enforcement. We also urge Members of Congress to support clear guardrails to rein in DHS’s campaign of terror in our communities – such as prohibiting immigration enforcement personnel from hiding their faces and banning arrests without a judicial warrant. We also believe that all people have the right to freely worship and safely access sacred spaces, a right long affirmed under U.S. law.

To protect our communities’ religious freedom and access to life-sustaining support, [we urge Congress to pass the Protecting Sensitive Locations Act \(H.R. 1061/S. 455\)](#) to permanently codify limitations on federal agents’ immigration enforcement actions in and around “sensitive locations” like houses of worship, schools, courthouses, hospitals, and other places where people receive essential services and resources.

Background: On January 20, 2025, the Trump administration rescinded guidance directing DHS personnel to avoid immigration enforcement actions at sensitive locations, reversing over 30 years of bipartisan administrative practice and eroding individuals’ and families’ access to community services. When people can take their child to school, get medical care, freely practice their religion, or appear in court without fear, families, neighborhoods, and institutions that uphold civic and religious life all stand to benefit.

We also urge Members of Congress to cosponsor and pass crucial legislation to protect our communities, such as:

- [The NO BAN Act \(H.R. 924 / S. 398\)](#) to prevent presidential administrations from imposing discriminatory nationality-based travel bans. | Led by Rep. Judy Chu & Senator Chris Coons
- [The Dream Act \(S.3348\) & American Dream & Promise Act \(H.R.1589\)](#) to provide a path to citizenship for millions of people who were brought to the U.S. as children. | Led by Senator Dick Durbin and Rep. Sylvia Garcia



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Protecting Planet: As Christians, we are called to be good stewards of God’s creation, protect human health from environmental pollution, and to stand in solidarity with victims of natural disasters. We urge Members of Congress to support needed policy changes that help communities prevent and respond to environmental crises.

Pass the FEMA Act of 2025 (H.R. 4669) to elevate FEMA to a cabinet-level agency, simplify disaster aid applications, streamline funding, incentivize risk reduction, expand temporary housing options, and create a public dashboard to track and monitor aid delivery.

Background: Disasters are increasing in frequency and intensity—wildfires, hurricanes, floods and severe storms are devastating more communities each year. Yet survivors often face confusing paperwork, long delays and inequitable access to aid. Faith-based partners aim to fill the gap between what FEMA can provide and what makes people “whole” again, but this gap is widening. The FEMA Act of 2025 takes long-overdue steps to strengthen and modernize federal disaster management.

We also urge Members of Congress to push for policies that protect our environment, such as:

- **The Energy Bills Relief Act** to make clean energy cheaper and easier to develop, bringing down consumer costs and emissions.
- **Restore the endangerment finding:** Recent actions by the Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) to roll back pollution protections and to discount the impacts of pollution on human lives is an abandonment of its stated mission to protect the environment and human health.
- **Rejoin International climate institutions:** Pulling out of institutions like the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change (UNFCCC) limits our ability to collaborate with other countries so that collectively we can work towards solutions that protect God’s creation and the environment.

