

RESOLUTION AGAINST PARTISAN POLITICS
2011 USCMA Annual Meeting
Miami, Florida

Preamble:

The social economic strength of our nation directly affects the economic strength of world societies. A bad economy affects all socioeconomic classes but disproportionately affects the poor third and fourth world countries and the poor peoples of the world and the United States.

Resolution:

The members of the United States Catholic Mission Association call for an end to partisan politics. We call forth the legislative branches of Federal and State governments to seek out the true and righteous policies needed to return the United States of America back to its social economic strength and leadership that the Constitution of the United States calls it to be.

Rationale:

In the last two decades the economic and manufacturing strength of America, its education, and infrastructure have dramatically declined, while America's lakes, streams, forests, air, and coastal regions have undergone an assault of industrial waste pollutants. While there is a call for "No new taxes" hidden taxes such as eliminating Federal tax deductible items from the 1040 form, substantial increase of sales taxes on everything from gasoline, travel, vehicles to food, and using Medicare and Social Security taxes for funding other areas of the budget, have proved to be an inefficient and non-productive method of balancing the budget and solving the ills of the nation. The poor, disabled, and the poorest states of the union suffer inequitably to the rest of the nation. All US citizens are affected by the social economic, educational, infrastructural decline. Compromise has guided this country through the decades and centuries. However, the non-compromise partisan politics of the last two decades have, in a big part, led to the state of the union of today.

We have young adults who cannot do simple math to make change, while having a substantially low reading skill for their level of education. As reported on CNN, we have a Veteran's medical system that is shredding thousands of records to lighten the case load. In some states, because of a large percentage of state taxes being unequally designated, we have perfectly good roads being repaved while boards of education cut teacher positions, their schools are crumbling in structure, and lack the necessary tools to educate.

We are struggling through the worst recession in the history of these United States, in no small part, due to the lack of reasonable laws governing Wall Street, business, and industry; but also partisan politics based on outdated party platforms and our outdated tax system. As a direct result of partisan politics this country has lost its "Triple A" credit rating for the first time in its history. This caused a substantial decline in Wall Street Markets, hurting retirement plans, individuals, and company financial holdings. Further stagnating a recovery from the recession and eliminating additional jobs from the work force.

It is time for moral, objective, rational reasoning. It is time to end the assault on the poor, elderly, and the disabled. It is time to make the government efficient. It is time to end deficit spending and to initiate policies for a balance budget, while at the same time, taking care of those who are in need and the elderly who have paid their way. We add our voice to the voice of the US bishop's international and domestic policy committees. These committees are urging the members of the "Supercommittee," made up of members from the Congress and Senate, to "Remember the poor and vulnerable." They further said, "A just framework for future budgets cannot rely on disproportionate cuts in essential services to poor and vulnerable persons. These programs need to be made more effective, efficient, and responsive. We should work to strengthen and improve them on an ongoing basis. Every budget decision should be assessed by whether it protects or threatens human life and dignity. A central moral measure of any budget proposal is how it affects "the least of these." (A reference to Matthew 25)

How we govern, the strength of our economy and how we conduct ourselves affects the global society, economy, and the poorest of the poor. We are a part of the web of life. We are accountable.

Suggested Action:

1. Let the Congress and Senate know that you are against partisan politics by contacting:
 - A. Your Congressmen or Congresswomen, www.house.gov/member_info/index.html
 - B. Your Senators www.senate.gov/general/contactinformation/senate_cfm.cfm.
2. Campaign with your circle of family and friends to do the same.