

**MARIN INTERFAITH COUNCIL
BOARD OF DIRECTORS
RESOLUTION**

COMPASSIONATE IMMIGRATION REFORM

We, the members of the Board of Directors of the Marin Interfaith Council, aware of the current national debate regarding immigration reform, call attention to the moral dimensions of any immigration policy. As religious and ethical persons, we believe any and all public policies must honor and uphold the inherent human dignity of each person. Our representative faith traditions teach us to welcome the stranger in our midst with love and compassion. **We recognize that current immigration law and enforcement policies are broken and call for compassionate, just reform.**

As leaders in our communities, we witness the human consequences of the current immigration system. We see and hear the suffering of immigrant families who have been abused at the hands of smugglers, who have lost loved ones in the desert, and who have experienced exploitation in the workplace, both in their countries of origin and here in the United States. We call for our elected officials and the media to recognize that the rising tide of immigration to the United States from many of the world's poorest countries is directly related to long-standing economic and political policy decisions of our country, other rich nations, the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund.

To the extent that they are humane and fair, we support the call for the United States government to enforce its laws and control our borders. At the same time, we support comprehensive immigration reform to include legalization for the millions of immigrants who are already here and the creation of humane, effective and fair channels for future immigrants to come to the United States.

We reject the punitive nature of House Resolution 4437 and call for comprehensive and just immigration reform which will balance national security with the general welfare of all persons.

**April 20, 2006
Marin Interfaith Council
Board of Directors**