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Vermont Interfaith Action's Immigration Leaders & Clergy Demand Congress Disregard the Parliamentarian's Recommendation on Immigration Provisions in BBB

BURLINGTON - Yesterday, the Senate Parliamentarian recommended against including immigration provisions in the Build Back Better Act. This is the third plan the parliamentarian rejects, which would have provided temporary work permits to millions; the first two plans sought to provide a permanent pathway to citizenship.

<u>In a statement Senate Democrats</u> said, they "strongly disagree" with the parliamentarian's decision of rejecting their latest immigration proposal. They added, "...we will pursue every means to achieve a path to citizenship in the Build Back Better Act."

"The Senate parliamentarian's ruling is not the final word on citizenship," said **Richard Morales, Political Director at Faith in Action.** "Senate Democrats must be bold and move forward with an alternative approach to protect immigrants and create a pathway to citizenship. We will not stop fighting until citizenship is delivered. We cannot build back better without Immigrants."

"Congress has the moral obligation to provide undocumented immigrants, who have been the backbone of this country throughout the pandemic, a pathway to citizenship," said **Catherine Bock, VIA immigration leader and naturalized citizen.** "The Senate has it in their power to make history and provide a pathway to citizenship in the Build Back Better Act by ignoring the parliamentarian's recommendation."

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Vermont Interfaith Action is a faith-based, grassroots coalition of more than 70 congregations and faith communities across the state. We work for social and racial justice for all Vermonters. Our organizing is centered in the community and built on relationships. For more information, visit www.viavt.org. VIA is a part of the Faith in Action (FIA) national network.

Faith in Action is the largest grassroots, faith-based organizing network in the United States. The nonpartisan organization works with 1,000 religious congregations in more than 200 cities and towns through its 46 local and state federations. For more information, visit www.faithinaction.org.