



Catholic Diocese of Salt Lake City Prayer and Action Network

UTAH LEGISLATURE BEGINS: The 2014 Utah Legislative session opened today. This is a great time to get involved in Catholic advocacy! This session will present issues regarding **care of creation** as air and water quality bills are debated, **human life and dignity issues** around human trafficking, suicide, and preventing fatal drug overdoses, and **option for the poor and vulnerable** as we advocate for criminal justice reform, fair housing practices, living wages, and health care.

What can you do? Come to the Capitol! Anyone interested in advocating from the Catholic position, please contact me and we can set up a date and time for you to join in Diocesan advocacy efforts. You can also contact your legislator via email and let them know where you stand on the issues. To find your state senator and representative, visit www.le.utah.gov and fill in the short form at the bottom of the page. To see the legislation the Diocese is tracking, visit http://www.dioslc.org/images/government%20liaison/2014_tracking_sheet.pdf (this list will change weekly).

HUMAN TRAFFICKING: While the legislature will consider two bills related to human trafficking, activities around the Super Bowl have far too often included increased sex trafficking in the state where the game is held. While human trafficking is a major issue across the United States year-round, this event brings it to the forefront. It also poses an opportunity to catch the traffickers and rescue the victims.

What can you do? Join a petition to the local law enforcement agencies of the towns surrounding the stadium to be aware and respond appropriately to this issue. The goal is to get 5,000 signatures in five days. [Click here](#) to add your name to the petition.

GREEN TIP OF THE WEEK: Plan your route: if you've never taken TRAX or a UTA bus, there's no better time to try it than inversion season. Check out routes, schedules, and tips at <http://www.rideuta.com/>

PRAYER: God of the sun and the moon
Of the mountains, deserts and plains
God of the mighty oceans, of rivers, lakes and streams
God of all creatures that live in seas and fly in the air
Of every living thing that grows and moves on this sacred Earth.

We are formed by Christ into Your People
Called to bring the world into Your marvelous light
As the Body of Christ, we are messengers of ecological vocation
We are entrusted with caring for this Earth which You have created.

Help us to love and respect it
To repair what we have damaged
To care for what You have made good and holy
Give us the wisdom and the passion to change our minds, our hearts and our ways.

Let us be mustard seeds in our world
Bringing about ecological conversion which grows and spreads to every corner of the Earth
For our sake now and for every generation which is to come
We ask this through Christ, Our Lord. Amen

Source: Catholic Earthcare Australia, 2002