



YOUR FAITH VOICE IS URGENTLY NEEDED: Tell Congress & Your Governor to WELCOME SYRIAN REFUGEES!

Background: As Disciples and others across the United States are donating to help Syrian refugees abroad, providing Refugee Hospitality Kits to new refugees, and volunteering to welcome refugees in their communities, a number of Governors recently announced that they want to stop their states from resettling Syrian refugees. This is morally reprehensible and goes against everything for which the United States stands. Some Members of Congress have even introduced legislation that would stop refugee resettlement altogether. It is critical for officials to hear from their constituents NOW as decisions are being made that will drastically impact the lives of Syrian refugees and refugee resettlement in the U.S.

Please take action TODAY:

Call your U.S. Representative and Senators at: [1-866-961-4293](tel:1-866-961-4293)

AND, if you live in these states, call your Governor at the #s below!:

- Alabama: (334) 242-7100
- Arizona: (520) 628-6580 / (602) 542-4331
- Arkansas: (501) 682-2345
- Florida: (850) 488-7146
- Georgia: (404) 656-1776
- Idaho: (208) 334-2100
- Illinois: (217) 782-0244 / (312) 814-2121
- Indiana: (317) 232-4567
- Iowa: (515) 281-5211
- Kansas: (785) 296-3232
- Louisiana: (225) 342-7015
- Maine: (207) 287-3531 / 1-855-721-5203
- Massachusetts: (617) 725-4005 / (413) 784-1200 / (202) 624-7713
- Michigan: (517) 373-3400
- New Hampshire: (603) 271-2121
- New Jersey: (609) 292-6000
- North Carolina: (919) 814-2000
- Ohio: (614) 466-3555
- Oklahoma: (405) 521-2342
- South Carolina: (803) 734-2100
- Texas: 800-843-5789 / (512) 463-1782
- Wisconsin: (608) 266-1212

When you call, tell the receptionist that, as a constituent, you want to help WELCOME Syrian refugees and that you're against the calls of some governors to reject Syrian refugees.

Ex: *"I'm a constituent from [City] and I support the resettlement of Syrian refugees. I urge the Senator / Representative / Governor to represent me and other constituents who seek to welcome Syrian refugees."*

Here are some helpful points that you may want to mention, but the most important point is your story and why your community wants to welcome Syrian refugees!

- The U.S. government handpicks the refugees who resettle here, and refugees are the most thoroughly vetted people to come to the United States.
- All refugees resettled in the United States undergo rigorous security screenings by the Department of Homeland Security, FBI, Department of Defense and multiple intelligence agencies, including biometric checks, forensic testing, medical screenings and in-person interviews.
- This is not an either/or situation. The United States can continue to welcome refugees while also continuing to ensure national security. We must do both.

You can also tweet your [Members of Congress](#) and your network:

".@REPRESENTATIVE, Our community is ready to welcome #Syrian #refugees. #RefugeesWelcome #AmericaWelcomes!"

Follow [@RCUSA_DC](#) on Twitter and "like" [Refugee Council USA](#) on Facebook for up-to-date alerts.

For further information, contact: Rev. Sharon Stanley-Rea, Director, Disciples Refugee & Immigration Ministries, sstanley@dhm.disciples.org, or 202-957-7826.