June 29, 2020

Leader McConnell, Leader Schumer, Chair Inhofe and Ranking Member Reed,

On behalf of 750 national religious bodies and institutions, faith communities and Jubilee USA member organizations, I urge you to ensure that the Anti-Money Laundering Act of 2020 becomes an amendment to the National Defense Authorization Act (S Amendment 2198 to S4049).

The Senate should ensure quick passage of this and similar pieces of legislation that reveal the true owner of “anonymous” shell companies to government authorities. Some shell companies hide those who profit from human trafficking and dictators use them to steal development aid and debt relief. Without basic transparency measures, shell companies can foster Medicare and Medicaid fraud, harm our national security and contribute to a loss of nearly a trillion dollars a year to the developing world.

My organization, Jubilee USA Network, coordinated 100 faith communities and organizations to urge Congress to pass strong transparency measures that reveal the true ownership of these anonymous companies. In the attached anti-money laundering support letter, please see a listing of these groups that include some of the largest religious institutions and groups in the United States, including: Christian Church (Disciples of Christ), The Episcopal Church, The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, The National Council of Churches, The Presbyterian Church (USA), The United Church of Christ, The United Methodist Church - General Board of Church and Society, Catholic religious orders and Jewish, Christian and Muslim communities.

As you know, this amendment is sponsored by Senators Mike Crapo (R-ID), Sherrod Brown (D-OH), Tom Cotton (R-AR), Mark Warner (D-VA), Mike Rounds (R-SD), Doug Jones (D-AL), Jerry Moran (R-KS), Bob Menendez (D-NJ) and John Kennedy (R-LA).

While we believe the adoption of this measure is a positive step forward to protect the vulnerable and improve transparency, we look forward to continuing to work with you to further strengthen this and related transparency initiatives.

I am grateful for your public service. Please know that I and our member institutions continue to hold you in prayer as you make critical decisions for our country and on behalf of those who are most vulnerable.

Gratefully,

Eric LeCompte
Executive Director

CC: US Senate Members
Enc: Attached Letter
June 29, 2020

Dear Senator,

“When the righteous increase, the people rejoice, but when the wicked rule, the people groan.” --- Proverbs 29:2

As communities of faith, we are grateful for your public service and we pray for your efforts daily. We are grateful for the efforts you’ve supported of Jubilee USA Network to build a more accountable and transparent economic system.

We write to urge you to support legislative actions in line with our faith - Jubilee legislation that promotes transparency, fights corruption and protects the vulnerable.

In particular, we invite you to cosponsor the Corporate Transparency Act and the ILLICIT Cash Act, which reveal the true owners of anonymous shell corporations to law enforcement.

This legislation is essential as it:

- stops ways that human traffickers hide and make profits
- prevents the exploitation of vulnerable communities in the United States through Medicaid and Medicare fraud
- curbs the theft of development and debt relief aid
- reveals theft from corrupt foreign governments of public monies
- can help raise revenue in the developing world

We are thankful for your support of these vital pieces of Jubilee legislation that protect and lift the vulnerable.

Signatories below as of 6/29/20

Denominations and Denominational Representations
Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
The Episcopal Church
The Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
The National Council of Churches
The Presbyterian Church (USA)
The United Church of Christ
The United Methodist Church, General Board of Church and Society

Religious Institutions, Faith Organizations and Denomination Offices
Africa Faith and Justice Network
Africa Women and Youth Initiative
United Methodist Women
Daughters of Charity USA
Franciscan Action Network
Columban Center for Advocacy and Outreach
American Friends Service Committee
Church of the Brethren Office of Peacebuilding and Policy
Disciples Center for Public Witness
Disciples Home Missions of the Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)
Jubilee USA Network
Leadership Conference of Women Religious
Pax Christi USA
Sojourners
United Church of Christ, Justice and Witness Ministries

Congregations, Faith Communities and Religious Groups
All Saints Episcopal Church -- Salt Lake City, UT
Ascension Lutheran Church -- Thousand Oaks, CA
Athens Catholic Community Peace and Justice Committee -- Athens, OH
Bernardine Franciscan Sisters -- Reading, PA
Bethel Lutheran Church -- Los Angeles, CA
B'nai Harim -- Pocono Pines, PA
California Lutheran University
Central Pacific Conference United Church of Christ -- OR
Congregation Gates of Heaven -- Schenectady, NY
Crossroads United Church of Christ -- Indianola, IA
Dominicans of Sinsinawa -- Sinsinawa, WI
First Congregational Church of Alameda, CA
First Congregational Church of Chicago UCC
First Presbyterian Church -- Portland, OR
Grey Nuns of the Sacred Heart -- Philadelphia, PA
Harbor House -- Thousand Oaks, CA
Holy Spirit Missionary Sisters, USA JPIC -- Waukegan, IL
IHM Sisters - Justice, Peace and Sustainability Office -- Monroe, MI
Immanuel Lutheran Church of Los Altos, California -- Los Altos, CA
Interfaith Worker Justice, New Mexico
InterReligious Task Force On Central America and Colombia -- Cleveland, OH
Iowa City Pax Christi -- IA
Jubilee Albany Capitol Region, NY
Jubilee Massachusetts
Jubilee Northwest -- Seattle, WA
Jubilee San Diego
Jubilee Southern California
Jubilee Ventura County -- CA
Jubilee Vermont
Lutheran Office of Public Policy -- California
Mary House Inc -- New Providence, NJ
Messiah Lutheran Church -- Schenectady, NY
Middlebury Friends Meeting -- Middlebury, VT
Mission Committee of the First Trinitarian Congregational Church (United Church of Christ) -- Concord, MA
Missionary Oblates of Mary Immaculate
Mount Tabor Lutheran Church -- Salt Lake City, UT
Muslims for Economic Justice
Nicaragua Center for Community Action -- Berkley, CA
Pax Christi Dallas -- TX
Pax Christi Florida
Pax Christi Hazel Crest -- IL
Pax Christi Hilton Head -- SC
Pax Christi Illinois
Pax Christi Metro New York
Pax Christi San Antonio -- TX
Franciscan Sisters of the Atonement -- Garrison, NY
Global Justice Institute, Metropolitan Community Churches -- New York, NY
St. John’s Episcopal Church -- Chicago, IL
Prince of Peace Lutheran Church -- Philadelphia, PA
Congregation of the Sisters, Servants of IHM -- Scranton, PA
St. Pius X Catholic Church -- Portland, OR
La Vista Ecological Learning Center -- Godfrey, IL
Pax Christi Pacific Northwest -- Seattle, WA
Pax Christi Seed Planters -- Crete, IL
Pax Christi St. Maurice/Broward Florida
Pax Christi Western NY
Peace Lutheran Church -- Danville, CA
Pilgrim United Church Of Christ -- Carlsbad, CA
Provincial Council Clerics of St. Viator -- Las Vegas, NV
Roswell Presbyterian Church -- Roswell, GA
Saint Mark’s Episcopal Cathedral -- Seattle, WA
San Dieguito United Methodist Church -- Encinitas, CA
Sinsinawa Dominican Peace and Justice Office -- WI
Sisters of Charity of Leavenworth JPIC Office, KS
Sisters of Charity of New York
Sisters of St. Francis of Philadelphia -- Aston, PA
Society of the Holy Child Jesus -- Philadelphia, PA
Sisters of Mercy of the Americas - Institute Justice Team -- Silver Spring, MD
Glenmary Home Missioners -- Cincinnati, OH
Sisters of Providence Office of Peace, Justice, and Sustainability -- St Mary-of-the-Woods, IN
South Coast Interfaith Council -- Long Beach, CA
South East Area Mission and Justice Committee of the Massachusetts Conference of the United Church of Christ -- Framingham, MA
St. Alban’s Episcopal Church -- Albany, CA
St. Mary’s Episcopal Church -- New York, NY
Temple Beth El of South Orange County -- Aliso Viejo, CA
The River Church South -- Quincy, MA
University Christian Church (Disciples of Christ)/United Church of Christ -- San Diego, CA
Ursuline Sisters of Cleveland -- Cleveland, OH