

Petitions that the JPIC Office has signed in 2009

Names of Petition	Action	Updates on Petition
Spring 2009		
80,000 Acres of Wetlands Lost Every Year	Via on-line @ Care2 petition website	Four hundred years ago, in the area that would later become the lower 48 United States, there were approximately 220 million acres of wetlands. Today, there is less than half that amount remaining. In fact, we lose 80,000 acres of wetlands a year. Wetlands serve many functions. They replenish and clean water, provide needed rest places for migratory birds and help reduce the risk of floods. Wetlands also provide opportunities to get away from our cities and get in touch with the natural world. We must keep our remaining wetlands safe, and can't afford to lose more acres to human development. So help protect our Wetlands visit http://www.thepetitionsite.com/takeaction/573485811?z00m=19755955
Physicians for Human Rights-Campaign Against Torture	Via on-line	Action to support the establishment of a commission to investigate US torture. See more on the Campaign Against Torture to advocate visit http://physiciansforhumanrights.org/ * Update: On Monday August 24, Attorney General Eric Holder just announced that he's appointing a special prosecutor, to investigate torture and other crimes committed under the Bush administration. Holder's decision came after months of pressure from various advocacy members. Steady streams of news stories have revealed one atrocity after another - from torture to secret Blackwater hit-squads. And each time you've responded with mounting pressure for a special prosecutor.
National Women's Law Center	Via on-line	Urging the members of Congress to Vote YES on a progressive budget that would make investments critical to women and their families and to our nation's long-term economic growth. To advocate on this visit https://secure2.convio.net/nwlc/site/Advocacy?cmd=display&page=UserAction&id=341
Defenders of Wildlife-on Vulnerable wildlife and Global Warming	Via on-line	Taking action to protect our wildlife-polar bears, wolves and other vulnerable wildlife. Scientists warn that global warming could threaten one-third of the world's known species with extinction. That's why Animal Planet's Jeff Corwin has joined with Defenders of Wildlife to help pass comprehensive global warming legislation that includes dedicated policies and funding to help wildlife survive in a changing climate. To keep taking action on both of these issues visit http://www.defenders.org/ , http://www.sierraclub.org/
Rebuild Gaza and Establish True Peace in the Region	Via on-line @ care2 petition	There is relative peace in Gaza in the aftermath of Israel's war with Hamas earlier this year. With thousands of homes destroyed, people there have a new concern: rebuilding, but they still need our help, so to help visit http://www.thepetitionsite.com/takeaction/454489071?z00m=19758169
Get Insecticide-Treated Mosquito Nets into the Hands of Families that need them	Via on-line	This is a very important issue, it only takes 30 seconds just to sign the petition, but you can truly make a difference, visit http://www.thepetitionsite.com/takeaction/733936639?z00m=19757101
Protect the Arctic Refuge	Via on-line	Urge Congress to permanently protect the Arctic Refuge: The Arctic National Wildlife Refuge is home to caribou, snow fox and millions of migratory birds. It is also the most important onshore denning habitat for America's vanishing polar bears. But this natural treasure is constantly under siege. Time and time again, the oil industry and their allies in Congress have sought to open this special place to harmful new drilling, threatening all of the wildlife that depend on it for survival. Please take a moment to visit the website to take action http://www.thepetitionsite.com/takeaction/567728305?z00m=14099068
Catholic Relief Services	Via on-line	Catholic Confront Global Poverty in support of our sisters and brothers globally. Visit http://www.usccb.org/sdwp/globalpoverty/ website for ideas to pray, learn and share about global poverty. Visit CRS Action Center http://www.crs.org/ for other current actions alerts that will make a difference in the lives of our sisters and brothers.
Union of Concerned Scientists	Via on-line	Took action by writing to Secretary Ken Salazar and Secretary Gary Locke about the scientific foundation of the Endangered Species Act; together we can continue pressing for the government policies, corporate practices and consumer choices that make a vital difference in our lives and for generations to come. To advocate visit http://www.ucsusa.org/action/alerts/
IMF-International Monetary Fund-Essential funding to	Via on-line	IMF-Managing Director Dominique Strauss-Kahn has a chance to give developing countries the funding they need to weather the recession. But we need to generate public pressure for him to give this funding the right way: without creating debt, and

help developing countries weather the economic downturn.		with no strings attached. You can also advocate visit http://www.one.org/us/imfgold/?rc=imfgoldtaf . Winning the Gold: At a critical moment in April, you asked the International Monetary Fund to use some of the profits from its proposed gold sale to help the world's poorest countries when they were all but forgotten during this global financial crisis. Bob Geldof delivered petition signatures from more than 50,000 ONE members to IMF head Dominique Strauss-Kahn. And following intense negotiations between the IMF, the US Treasury, House Financial Services Committee Chair Barney Frank, and ONE staff, a deal was announced last week that will increase IMF lending to poor countries—\$8 billion in the next two years alone – and keep interest rates very low, starting at 0% for the next two and a half years. To read all the details on the ONE blog and join the conversation @ http://www.one.org/r?r=210&id=1129-2026411-z.Aittx&t=2
Global Food Security Act	Via on-line	More than 963 million people in the world do not have enough to eat -- 907 million people in developing countries alone are hungry. That's why CARE is excited and inspired by President Obama's call for Congress to double U.S. support for food security programs. As he said, programs like these "are not charity. They are investments in future markets and future drivers of world economic growth." Now is the time to speak up for the world's poor by supporting the president's plan -- let your senators know today that you support this kind of smart development. Visit http://www.thepetitionsite.com/takeaction/998907032
Coalition on Human Needs-Protecting Low-Income People While Protecting the Planet from Climate Change.	Via on-line	One of the President's major priorities is to curb global warming by limiting the greenhouse gas emissions produced by the use of fossil fuels like coal and gas. That means limiting the use of these forms of energy, and until alternative sources of power are plentiful, costs of energy will rise. Low- and moderate-income people will be hit hard by increasing energy costs. The food they buy will cost more because of rising farm and transportation expenses. Gasoline and home heating costs will go up; in fact, almost every product will be affected by escalating energy costs. Advocates believe that an essential element of climate change legislation needs to be that it generates revenue used in part to fully protect vulnerable people from these costs. To read more and advocate visit http://www.chn.org/humanneeds/090511c.html
Immigration Reform	Via on-line	On April 30, the Senate held the first in a series of hearings on immigration reform. During the hearing, lawmakers discussed several issues of contention for immigration overhaul including legalization of undocumented immigrants already present in the U.S., border security, an employer verification system, and terms of a guest worker program. This is an on-going advocacy to educate yourself visit these websites http://www.catholiccharitiesusa.org/NetCommunity/Document_Doc?id=1639 or http://www.justiceforimmigrants.org/ (see our summer petition for all and any updates on Immigration)
Concerns with detainee treatment and Interrogation.	Via on-line to Senator Dick Durbin	An independent commission to examine U.S. policies regarding detainee treatment and interrogation. The Senate Intelligence Committee is currently conducting a thorough investigation of the detainee issue. The Senate Intelligence Committee published a declassified narrative of the Justice Department's legal opinions on the CIA Detention and Interrogation Program . President Obama also released previously classified Bush-era Justice Department memos that authorized water boarding and other abusive interrogation techniques. This narrative can be viewed by visiting the committee's website at http://intelligence.senate.gov/pdfs/olcopinion.pdf .
Coalition on Human Needs on Juvenile Justice & Delinquency Prevention Act!	Via on-line	Support of S. 678, the Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act (JJDP) Reauthorization Bill. The Juvenile Justice and Delinquency Prevention Act is a major vehicle for juvenile justice reform at the federal level. The JJDP was first passed in 1974 and most recently reauthorized in 2002. It provides grants to states to assist with juvenile crime prevention and intervention programs. In order to be eligible for these grants, states must comply with the four core protections to ensure that status offenders are not detained, to remove children from placement in adult jails except in limited circumstances, and in those limited circumstances to ensure sight and sound separation from adults, and to reduce the over-representation of youth of color in the justice system. Here is the link to the state & local organizational sign-on letter: http://www.campaignforyouthjustice.org/documents/S.678SignOnLetter_000.doc
Travel between the US and Cuba	Via on-line to Rep. Peter Roskam	Supporting lifting restrictions on travel by Americans to Cuba we urge you to support H.R.874, the Freedom to Travel to Cuba Act. Please co-sponsor this important legislation, visit http://capwiz.com/justforeignpolicy/issues/alert/?alertid=13182961