



*Help for Today...  
Hope for Tomorrow*

## Catholic Charities Diocese of Stockton

September 21, 2015

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Governor, State of California  
State Capitol, First Floor  
Sacramento, California 95814

### **Re: AB 693 (Eggman) Multifamily Affordable Housing Solar Roofs Program – Request for Signature**

Dear Governor Brown:

The Environmental Justice Program of Catholic Charities, Diocese of Stockton, respectfully requests your signature on AB 693 by Assembly Member Eggman.

In his Encyclical, *Laudato Si*, Pope Francis asserts that “We are faced not with two separate crises, one environmental and the other social, but rather with one complex crisis which is both social and environmental. Strategies for a solution demand an integrated approach to combating poverty, restoring dignity to the excluded, and at the same time protecting nature.” (139 *Laudato Si*) AB 693 is an integrated approach to addressing both social and environmental ills.

Many low-income residents live in multifamily housing. However, these tenants often do not have access to renewable energy despite polls showing communities of color want renewable energy in their neighborhoods. AB 693 is a step toward combating the poverty these families face by lowering their energy bills, addressing their exclusion from the “green economy,” and protecting Creation by shifting to renewable sources of energy. Not only does AB 693 address environmental concerns, it addresses social challenges as well.

AB 693 is an example of the integrated approach Pope Francis is calling for that protects nature, restores dignity, and combats poverty. As such, we strongly support AB 693 and ask for your signature.

Sincerely,

Katelyn Roedner Sutter  
Environmental Justice Program Director



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