

Interfaith Statement of Opposition to the Death Penalty
The Religious Community Calls for Repeal of the Death Penalty

As faith leaders throughout New Mexico, we stand united against the continued use of capital punishment in our state. And we do not stand alone. The majority of religious communities nationwide oppose the death penalty as a violation of human rights and a perpetuation of violence in our society.

The following national religious groups have made statements in opposition to the death penalty:

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| American Baptist Church in the U.S.A. | The Moravian Church in America |
| The American Jewish Committee | National Council of Churches of Christ |
| The Bruderhoff Communities | Orthodox Church in America |
| Central Conference of American Rabbis | Presbyterian Church U.S.A |
| Christian Church (Disciples of Christ) | The Rabbinical Assembly |
| Church of the Brethren | Reformed Church in America |
| Church Women United | Reorganized Church of Jesus Christ |
| The Episcopal Church | of Latter Day Saints |
| Evangelical Lutheran Church of America | Union for Reform Judaism |
| Fellowship of Reconciliation | Unitarian Universalist Association |
| Friends United Meeting | United Church of Christ |
| The General Association of American Baptists | The United Methodist Church |
| General Conference Mennonite Church | U.S. Conference of Catholic Bishops |

As people of faith, we support a justice system that is both humane and restorative. We uphold the victims of violent crime and their family members in their grief and suffering and promote measures that will facilitate their healing.

Therefore, we support efforts to replace New Mexico's death penalty with life without the possibility of parole. We also support the redirection of state resources to more adequately fund programs for murder victims' families.

We are greatly disturbed by the presence of violence in our communities. As ministers to many of our greatest societal problems, we believe the state must consider solutions to violent crime that address our communities' need for healing not vengeance. The will of the majority of New Mexicans and the nation want non-violent and restorative alternatives to the death penalty.

In the name of justice, mercy, and peace, we support **repeal of the death penalty**.

Sincerely,

Signature	Printed Name	Affiliation/Congregation/City
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Date	Phone	Email Address
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____ Please initial here if we can release your name publicly (e.g. in a paid newspaper ad) as a supporter of HB 576 and the Religious Community Calls to Abolish the Death Penalty in New Mexico.