

STRONG SUPPORT FOR LAW PROTECTING CONFESSIONAL

On June 10, the Catholic League sponsored a press conference at the New York Catholic Center welcoming Congressman Peter T. King in his effort to secure legislation barring any future bugging of the confessional, as happened in Eugene, Oregon this past spring. The law, called the "Religious Communication Sanctity Act," would bar government officials from taping any privileged religious communication between clergy and the faithful.

As soon as the bill was introduced, it garnered 10 co-sponsors, drawing support from Republicans, Democrats, liberals and conservatives. The following list includes those organizations that were contacted by the Catholic League and were fully supportive of the bill. It was a unique gathering, bringing together representatives of the Catholic, Protestant, Jewish and Muslim religions.

Participating Organizations:

<ul style="list-style-type: none">• American Catholic Lawyers Association<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Americans United for the Pope• Ancient Order of Hibernians• Archdiocese of New York (Catholic Charities, Chancery Department, Communications, Catholic Home Bureau, Department of Education, Ecumenical Commission, Family Life/Respect Life, Italian Apostolate, Liturgical Commission, Parish Councils, Priest Council, Propagation of the Faith, Tribunal, Vicar for Religious)<ul style="list-style-type: none">• <i>As You Think</i> (Inspirational Radio Program)• New York Board of Rabbis• Catholic Alliance (a division of the Christian Coalition)<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Catholic Central Union• Catholic Campaign for America• Catholic Daughters of America• Catholic League for Religious and Civil Rights<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Catholic War Veterans• Cardinal Cooke Guild• Cardinal Mindszenty Foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Central Baptist Church• Chinese Catholic Information Center<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Christian Coalition• Christian Law Institute• Church of St. John the Evangelist<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Congregation of Mt. Sinai• Epiphany Church• Fellowship of Catholic Scholars• Franciscan Friars of the Renewal<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Guild of Catholic Lawyers• Institute on Religion and Public Life<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Legatus• National Association of Black Catholics<ul style="list-style-type: none">• New York State Catholic Conference• New York State Council of Churches<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Order of the Holy Sepulchre• Peace Press Association/Voice of Peace (Muslim Group)<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Pro Ecclesia Foundation• Rockland County Catholic Coalition
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The Catholic League and Congressman Peter King were delighted with this response and wish to thank everyone for their support.