



**ARIZONA CATHOLIC CONFERENCE**  
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HOLY PROTECTION OF MARY BYZANTINE CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF PHOENIX

**Bishops of the Arizona Catholic Conference Statement  
On Governor Ducey Signing Bill to Improve Religious Accommodations for Dying Patients**

The Bishops of the Arizona Catholic Conference (ACC) are grateful that Governor Doug Ducey has signed into law legislation (HB 2449) to better provide religious accommodations for dying and sick patients.

HB 2449 is similar to a beneficial law passed last year pertaining to hospital patients and extends these accommodations to other places where people die such as care facilities and hospice.

We remain extremely grateful for the dedicated health care providers who have done so much to assist people in need over the course of the pandemic. After all, patients typically need both great care for their bodies as well as for their souls.

Being able to have clergy present at the end of life is important to people of many different faiths. Their presence is not only important to the patient, but it also brings tremendous peace of mind to the surviving relatives.

Accordingly, the ACC appreciates Representative Quang Nguyen for sponsoring HB 2449 and all the elected official of both parties who supported this legislation.

Most Rev. Eduardo A. Nevares  
Auxiliary Bishop of Phoenix

Most Rev. Thomas J. Olmsted  
Bishop of Phoenix

Most Rev. James S. Wall  
Bishop of Gallup

Most Rev. Edward J. Weisenburger  
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