

**EXHIBIT "19**

IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT  
FOR THE NORTHERN DISTRICT OF ALABAMA  
NORTHEASTERN DIVISION

HISPANIC INTEREST COALITION )  
OF ALABAMA; et al., )

Plaintiffs, )

v. )

CASE NO. 5:11-CV-2484-SLB

ROBERT BENTLEY, in his official )  
capacity as Governor of the State of )  
Alabama; et al., )

Defendants. )

RT. REV. HENRY N. PARSLEY, JR., in )  
his official capacity as Bishop of the )  
Episcopal Church in the Diocese of )  
Alabama, et al., )

Plaintiffs, )

v. )

Case Number: 5:11-CV-2736-CLS

ROBERT BENTLEY, in his official )  
capacity as Governor of the State of )  
Alabama; et al., )

Defendants. )

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA, )

Plaintiff, )

v. )

Case Number: 2:11-CV-2746-LSC

STATE OF ALABAMA; )  
GOVERNOR ROBERT J. BENTLEY, )

Defendants. )

## AFFIDAVIT OF SISTER VERONICA RYAN

My name is Sister Veronica Ryan. I am a Benedictine nun. I am over the age of 19 years and am competent to give this affidavit. I have personal knowledge of the matters stated herein. This affidavit is submitted in support of a motion for preliminary injunction filed by the Plaintiffs in the Case No. 5:11-CV-2736-CLS, styled Rt. Rev. Henry N. Parsley, Jr. etc., et al. v. Robert Bentley, etc., et al.

I am co-director of the Hispanic Ministry in Montgomery for the Archdiocese of Mobile. The ministry covers eleven counties in middle Alabama. The mission of our organization is to see to the religious needs of the Catholic Hispanic community. We also assist them however temporally, physically, psychologically and in any other manner that is needed. Our mission is not limited to Catholics as we serve non-Catholic Hispanics also. We serve between 2,500-3,000 people.

We seek to encourage the faith of the people which we do through teachings, Bible study, providing moral support walking with them in their daily life. We also assist them with food and clothing that has been donated to us through different organizations and individuals. We assist them with filing paper work, registering their children for school, taking them to appointments with the doctor or health department, finding adequate housing and essential furnishings, providing ESL classes and translations with law enforcement and the courts. We encourage them to work for a better and more independent future.

Through the years I have found these people of Hispanic descent to be caring, family oriented people; seeking to contribute and not to burden those around them. They have much they can teach us about the family; the idea of giving to those less fortunate even though they may have very little themselves. Many see it as a problem when families occupy small living quarters, "How can THEY live this way"? It has been my experience that these men, women and children do not want to live this way, but out of sense of family are willing to accept others into their homes. Their children who work in fields do so willingly and want to help support their families, giving what they earn to their parents. We can learn from this, yet through this Act the State seeks to condemn God's command to provide for others. They, more than we, put "love" and "faith" into action.

Serious, irreparable harm, has already resulted from this legislation. On July 30, 2011, many of us participated in a peaceful, prayer filled, march along Dexter Avenue in downtown Montgomery. Within hours following this march, three Hispanics were gunned down as they stood and talked outside their home. The attack was unprovoked. One died. One remains in intensive care at a local hospital. The murderers, not of Hispanic descent, are still at large. Marie, related to one of the victims, has left the area, fearful that harm will come to her and her children.

Maria and Leonardo have a young daughter, Guadalupe. Guadalupe was born with a hole in her heart. She is a Downs syndrome child. Until recently an insurance program known as "AllKids" has provided coverage for the treatment and care she receives. That


program has stopped. Because of this anti-immigration law the parents are fearful about what may happen to her. Relatives, who themselves are in the process of obtaining their citizenship, were about to adopt Guadalupe, with the hope that she could become an insured under their health insurance policy. Because of this legislation that process has come to a halt! This potential life saving relationship will not take place out of fear that in doing so they, the potential adoptive parents, will not obtain their citizenship.

Many have come to me out of fear – whether documented or not. And it is the children who have already suffered the most. They are so afraid. They are afraid to go outside. They are afraid to go to school. Many have not registered for school and say they will not.

It has not been my experience that these immigrants get paid “under-the-table” either. To the contrary, many receive paychecks that show deductions for all kinds of taxes and programs. I have seen the stubs. These people work hard and pay their fair share. Why not require a payment from them in return for a right to work? I know from experience they will pay it; they will pay their fair share of taxes; they will pay the expense of a driver’s license, marriage license, and other government revenue raising programs. They do NOT want to be a drain, and in many cases are far from it.

HB56 will make me a criminal. I cannot turn my back on these people. I will not turn my back on my God. All that I do, and those that volunteer in this ministry, encourages, aids and serves to harbor these individuals, whether they are documented or not. Thus by actively practicing my religion I subject myself to prison.

Further affiant sayeth not.

  
Sister Veronica Ryan

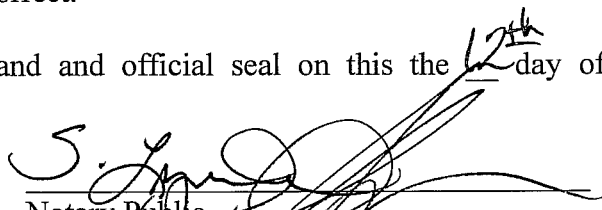
STATE OF ALABAMA )

COUNTY OF MONTGOMERY )

Before me, the undersigned notary public in and for said county in said state, personally appeared Sister Veronica Ryan, who is known to me and who, being by me first duly sworn, did depose and state that she has read the foregoing Affidavit and the statements contained therein are true and correct.

August Given under my hand and official seal on this the 12<sup>th</sup> day of  
, 2011.

[SEAL]

  
Notary Public  
my commission expires: 3/16/15