

February 12, 2004

Most Rev. Wilton D. Gregory, S.L.D.  
Bishop of Belleville  
President  
United States Conference of Catholic Bishops  
3211 Fourth Street NE  
Washington, DC 20017-1194

Dear Bishop Gregory,

The undersigned Bishops and Diocesan Administrators of Region III, which includes the states of Pennsylvania and New Jersey, are opposed to any extension of the National Audit regarding the sexual abuse of minors by clergy until all the Bishops of the United States Catholic Conference have an opportunity to discuss this matter in executive session at our general meeting in November 2004. The undersigned Bishops and Diocesan Administrators also believe it advisable not to give any impression to the media that the numerous recommendations coming from the Office of Child and Youth Protection are in any way assured before they are discussed by the Bishops. The undersigned respectfully suggest that this letter be brought to the attention of the March meeting of the Administrative Committee of Bishops.

With fraternal best wishes we are

Sincerely yours in Christ,

*Justin Card. Rigali*

His Eminence Justin Cardinal Rigali  
Archbishop of Philadelphia

*+ John J. Myers*

Most Rev. John J. Myers  
Archbishop of Newark

*+ Basil M. Schott*

Most Rev. Basil M. Schott  
Archbishop of Pittsburgh, Byzantine Ruthenians

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Most Rev. Anthony G. Bosco  
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+ Charles J. McDonnell

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+ Andrew Pataki

Most Rev. Andrew Pataki  
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Most Rev. John M. Dougherty  
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Most Rev. Joseph F. Martino  
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Most Rev. Frank J. Rodimer  
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Most Rev. Arthur J. Serratelli  
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Most Rev. John M. Smith  
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+ *Donald W. Trautman*

Most Rev. Donald W. Trautman  
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+ *Donald W. Wuerl*

Most Rev. Donald W. Wuerl  
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Syriac Catholic Diocese

+ *Joseph Younan*

Most Rev. Joseph Younan  
Bishop of Our Lady of Deliverance