

February 6, 2007: Honoring the Diocese of Orange County

The Honorable Loretta Sanchez

HONORING THE DIOCESE OF ORANGE COUNTY

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Madam Speaker, I rise today to honor the Diocese of Orange County which has recently celebrated its 30th anniversary and thank Bishop Tod Brown for his leadership of the Diocese.

The Diocese of Orange was established in 1976 after 200 years of presence by the Catholic Church symbolized by the Mission at San Juan Capistrano built in 1776.

Since its original charter, The Diocese of Orange has always stood for justice and peace and has grown with Orange County providing immeasurable service to the community.

The Diocese has a hand in the education of over 65,000 students from elementary through high school instilling values of community involvement and a strong moral compass.

The Diocese has also provided assistance to over 400,000 patients through its clinics, health centers, and hospitals in Orange County.

On top of these services, the Catholic Diocese has been a beacon of hope for the underprivileged in Orange County and always provides help to those in need.

The Diocese has united a culturally diverse group of people, including my Vietnamese and Latino communities, through faith, love and understanding. The Church has always been welcoming and I thank them for their service.