



Dear Bishop Dolan,

We are writing to you with respect and appreciation for your leadership and for the Diocese's work to serve those who are mentally suffering. However, I am concerned about the recent diocesan endorsement of Proposition 409, which urges Catholics to support a new bond measure for Valleywise Health.

Here are the facts... In 2014, Valleywise Health received voter approval for a bond of \$935 million in Maricopa County. That bond remains in effect until 2038, and property owners are still paying for it. Now, just ten years later, Valleywise is asking the taxpayers of Maricopa County to approve another 30-year bond of \$897 million. This new proposal would add hundreds of millions in additional debt and permanently increase property taxes once again. Such repeated borrowing is not financially sustainable and places an ever-growing burden on families and small businesses who are already paying off the previous bond.

Voting no on Proposition 409 is not a rejection of mental health care. It is a call for accountability and transparency. Voters deserve to know how nearly a billion dollars from the last bond were spent before being asked to approve another large measure. Fiscal responsibility and stewardship are moral imperatives as well as civic ones.

Beyond the financial concerns, there are moral considerations. Valleywise Health proudly promotes itself as a national leader in LGBTQ healthcare through the Human Rights Campaign, an organization that publicly opposes Catholic teaching on human sexuality. It is difficult to reconcile this public alignment with the Diocese's mission and moral witness. Supporting a measure that directly benefits an institution so openly at odds with the Church risks causing confusion among the faithful.

The Bible is clear: *"So God created mankind in his own image, in the image of God he created them; male and female he created them"*. Genesis 1:27 As Catholics we have a moral responsibility to not fund ideologies that violate the Natural Law and the Sacred Scripture which Proposition 409 intends to do.

Catholics can and should support compassionate mental health initiatives, but we must also uphold integrity in how those efforts are funded and who benefits from them. Supporting Proposition 409 would mean endorsing both fiscal irresponsibility and moral compromise.

I respectfully ask that the Diocese reconsider its public stance on this issue and take into account the serious financial and ethical implications associated with this bond. Your leadership carries great influence, and many of us look to you for clarity and conviction rooted in both truth and prudence.

Thank you for your time and for your continued dedication to serving the people of God. Please know of our prayers for your strength and wisdom as you guide our Diocese.

Sincerely,

John Yep
President, Catholics For Catholics