

May 15, 2020

RE: Announcement of the Acceptance of the U.S. Province's Public Stance on Climate Change

Dear Sisters and Associates,

The U.S. Provincial Leadership Team is pleased to announce that the Climate Change Public Stance is accepted due to the overwhelming support expressed by 200 sisters and 57 associates.


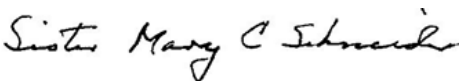

We are grateful to the Creating Actions to Reverence the Earth (C.A.R.E.) committee who proposed this Public Stance. Under the direction of the Justice and Peace Coordinator, they provided for the study, reflection, prayer, and informed decision-making process to make this possible.

The School Sisters of St. Francis believe that we are called to protect the vitality and diversity of the web of life. What better time to address the climate crisis than in the year of the 50th anniversary of Earth Day and the 5th anniversary of Pope Francis' *Laudato Si*?

The 2018-2022 congregational direction asks us to "identify and respond to the most urgent needs of our context..." This call compels us to act individually, communally, systemically on behalf of the Earth, the community of life, and all future generations within the sacred web of life.

Together we commit to bring this Public Stance to bear fruit in our lives.

Your Sisters,

Kathleen O'Brien, OSF

Mary C. Schneider, OSF

Kathy Braun, OSF