



**COMMISSION FOR INTERCULTURAL
MINISTRIES
ADVOCACY TEAM**

EPPN Legislative Briefing

August 21, 2025

Alan

- Recess continues for 2 more weeks. Watch for local events with your legislators.
- NDAA - Defense bill must be passed. Other bills might be attached to this. OGR will keep track.
- TAKE ACTIONS and encourage others to do so. [Advocacy Resources](#)
- Season of Creation: Biodiversity Conservation & Policy - webinar September 5, 11AM, Pacific - [Register here](#)
- Be educators for your church and community at this time about topics that are affecting us and our communities.

Lindsey

- Government funding must happen by September 30.
 - Continuing resolution that holds funding at current level probably will be the vehicle to do this. 60 votes in the Senate needed to do this. OGR advocating for funding for the most vulnerable. [TAKE ACTION](#) here to protect the vulnerable.
- Dept of Education rule re loan forgiveness changing targets individuals doing things that the administration does not support. [Info here](#)
- Health Dept will no longer fund trans surgery in benefits and some drugs in 2026

Susie

- Coal industry - one of the most expensive energy sources in the US. Info re coal industry here and how it keeps going - [Click here](#)
- Oak Flats update - Land transfer to mining company did not happen on Tuesday. Court in AZ temporarily halts transfer. Duration of order not known. Arguments scheduled in a couple weeks.
- September is the Season of Creation - Resources:
 - Creation Justice Ministries events - [Info here](#)
- Vehicle emissions rule change public comment period open until September 22.
 - How to write a comment - [Click here](#)
 - Submit comment - [Click here](#)

Troy

- Court says asylum laws must be followed and not ignored
- Administration might issue policies to address farm worker shortage
- States, Counties, and Cities sanctuary list updated.
- Legislation
 - Afghan Adjustment Act reintroduced in House and Senate

Lynnaia

- Gaza - Israel announces it will take full control of Gaza City and [increases violence](#).
UN Chief renews call for ceasefire - [Info here](#)
 - Gaza food assistance only 47% of minimum needed for each person
 - Water shortage grows
 - People with disabilities have lost necessary equipment
- Ukraine - Amidst peace talk more young people have been killed by violence
- US sanctions put in place for international criminal court persons - [Info here](#)
- Plastics pollution conference ends with no treaty - [Info here](#)
- World Humanitarian Day - August 19 - Record number of aid workers killed
 - World Humanitarian Day 2025: Aid workers mull record toll of their own - [Click here](#)
 - Life of Humanitarians in Gaza - [video here](#)