

IN THE  
**Supreme Court of the United States**

---

UNITED STATES CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS,  
*Petitioner,*

v.

DAVID O'CONNELL,  
*Respondent.*

---

**On Petition for a Writ of Certiorari to the  
United States Court of Appeals  
for the District of Columbia Circuit**

---

**BRIEF OF FEDERAL COURTS PROFESSOR DEREK T.  
MULLER AS AMICUS CURIAE IN SUPPORT OF  
PETITIONER**

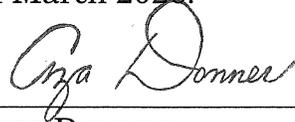
---

**CERTIFICATE OF COMPLIANCE**

As required by Supreme Court Rule 33.1(h), I certify that the document contains **5,966** words, excluding the parts of the document that are exempted by Supreme Court Rule 33.1(d).

I declare under penalty of perjury that the foregoing is true and correct.

Sworn to and subscribed before me this 6th day of March 2026.



---

AZA SALINDER DONNER  
NOTARY PUBLIC  
District of Columbia

My commission expires April 30, 2029.

