



*Arzobispo Metropolitano de
San Juan de Puerto Rico*

To: New York Legislature

Re: A2970/S4747 Memo of Support, New York Taxpayer and International Debt Crises Protection Act

May 30, 2023

Dear Senators and Assembly members:

Please immediately co-sponsor and enact the New York Taxpayer and International Debt Crises Protection Act (S4747/A2970) before this legislative session ends in June. We are faced with a moral decision.

I write as vulture funds tried to destroy Puerto Rico's debt restructuring and now are buying up land across my home, Puerto Rico. These same vulture funds are now trying to stop A2970/S4747 because it will stop their predatory behavior towards our Caribbean and global neighbors.

The New York Taxpayer and International Debt Crises Protection Act can provide a model for new legislation that can offer additional debt protections for Puerto Rico.

In addition to providing debt relief for all countries in Latin America, the legislation has positive effects for Puerto Rico. *Because the New York Taxpayer and International Debt Crises Protection Act provides debt relief for our world in crises en masse, it protects Puerto Rico taxpayers, addresses inflation and economic shocks and helps address Puerto Rico's rising food prices.*

Know I and other religious leaders across Puerto Rico are holding you in prayer as you move forward S4747/A2970.

I am grateful for the expert advice that I have received from JubileeUSA and their professional advocacy in addressing this matter.

Sincerely,

+ Roberto Jim

Archbishop of San Juan de Puerto Rico