



Miami's Archbishop and activists take stand on immigration

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MIAMI (WSVN) -- On the steps of Miami's Freedom Tower, Archbishop Thomas Wenski joined immigration activists Thursday to demand executive action for millions of immigrant families.

"To alleviate the suffering of untold millions, we call on the president to provide relief within the legal limits of his executive authority," said Wenski.

They are asking for President Barack Obama to use his executive power to stop the deportation of illegal immigrants. Bertha Sanles is an immigrant who has lived in South Florida for 14 years. When asked if she fears deportation she responded, "Yes, because I have children. I have to take them to school, I have to go work."

The renewed urgency comes from a delayed promise. The president vowed to take executive action this past summer but pushed his self-imposed deadline back to after Tuesday's election.

Tuesday's landslide election for republicans means they control what bills get to the president's desk. "I hope they work together at this time," said Sanles about both democrats and republicans in Washington.

The soon-to-be Senate majority leader, Kentucky Senator Mitch McConnell, warned that executive action from the president would be poisoning the well. McConnell said, "It's like waving a red flag in front of a bull to say if you guys don't do what I want, I'm gonna do it on my own."

"Before the end of the year," Obama said, "we're gonna take whatever lawful actions that I can take that I believe will improve the functioning of our immigration system."

The exact policies the president could touch on have not yet been released.