



FLORIDA CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS
2020 Candidate Questionnaire Project



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U.S. HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - DISTRICT 4

DO YOU SUPPORT OR OPPOSE...

ABORTION FUNDING BAN: Maintaining the prohibition on the use of federal funds to pay for or provide insurance coverage for elective abortions? **OPPOSE**

Optional Comments: This disproportionately affects poor women. As a Catholic I understand the deeply held beliefs about abortion, however it has been determined to be legal by the Supreme Court and therefore should be equally available. There are many who object morally to a variety of ways our tax dollars are used. The laws that exist should be applied equitably.

ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE: Preserving the state option for Medicaid expansion, which would allow Florida to expand coverage in the future? **SUPPORT**

Optional Comments: Studies show thousands of Floridians have died due to lack of Medicaid expansion. We have almost a million medically needy people, who desperately need care. Covid has made the need to act on this issue even more urgent.

CONSUMER PROTECTION: Capping the interest rate on consumer credit loans (e.g., payday loans and vehicle title loans) at 36%? **NO RESPONSE**

Optional Comments: This is a tough one. If we are talking primarily about Payday loans, I know for some they are the only option. Yet it often results in a cycle of debt. I just don't what the good alternative is at this point. What I really want to say it let's create an economy that solves the underlying problem. Why do so many need these loans?

DEATH PENALTY REPEAL: Repealing the federal government's use of the death penalty? **SUPPORT**

ENVIRONMENT: Investing federal funds in renewable energy innovation to mitigate harm to the natural environment? **SUPPORT**

Optional Comments: If we want a sustainable planet for our children and grandchildren and a strong economy, this is a must.

GUN CONTROL: Restricting access to firearms by requiring universal background checks? **SUPPORT**

Optional Comments: Polls show the huge majority of Americans of all parties want universal background checks. It seems a common sense step to lowering gun violence.

HUMAN SEXUALITY: Maintaining currently protected classes of individuals without adding new ones based on "sexual orientation" and "gender identity"? **OPPOSE**

IMMIGRATION: Achieving comprehensive reforms that offer a path to citizenship for the undocumented who live in the U.S. and do not have a criminal record, expand family reunification and worker visas, secure our borders, and establish humane enforcement? **SUPPORT**

INTERNATIONAL ASSISTANCE: Maintaining funding for U.S. international humanitarian and development assistance, which currently represents 1% of the federal budget? **SUPPORT**

PARENTAL EMPOWERMENT: Providing individuals and businesses federal tax credits for donations to state-based scholarship programs for K-12 education?

OPPOSE

Optional Comments: Public education is woefully underfunded. That has to be the government's priority and addressed before I could consider moving tax money elsewhere.