



# FLORIDA CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS 2020 Candidate Questionnaire Project



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**FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - DISTRICT 6**

## DO YOU SUPPORT OR OPPOSE...

**ABORTION LIMITS:** Prohibiting abortion when a fetus has reached 20 weeks gestation and has the capacity to feel pain?

**OPPOSE**

*Optional Comments: I support the 1973 Supreme Court decision of such procedures (abortion) being performed only when "necessary, in appropriate medical judgement". There are unfortunately many gestational complications including placental abruption and preeclampsia which endanger the lives of women and their fetuses after 20 weeks. Due to these existing conditions I do not support a law that prohibits an abortion completely and will leave it to mothers, their families, and their medical professionals to make these difficult decisions.*

**ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE:** Increasing health coverage options for uninsured Floridians, especially the unemployed and the working poor?

**SUPPORT**

*Optional Comments: I support whole-heartedly expanding healthcare options for everyone. As health insurance has increasingly become for-profit over the decades struggling families have been unable to afford the rising premiums. I fully support expanding Medicaid, which would be over \$14 billion in federal money (aka our own tax money) that would come back to Florida to help our families.*

**AFFORDABLE HOUSING:** Using all state housing trust funds as intended to address affordable housing needs in Florida?

**SUPPORT**

*Optional Comments: We have a fund set aside specifically for affordable housing in the Florida budget that has been constantly raided. We need to stop appropriating those funds and use them for what they are intended. Florida has the second largest homeless population which we must address.*

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE:** Authorizing courts to impose a sentence less than the mandatory minimum term of imprisonment for nonviolent crimes?

**SUPPORT**

*Optional Comments: Florida has too many in prison for non-violent crimes. Releasing nonviolent offenders and preventing excessive incarceration would save the lives of many people and improve the Florida budget without affecting Public Safety.*

**DEATH PENALTY REPEAL:** Ending Florida's use of the death penalty while preserving the alternative of a life sentence without parole?

**SUPPORT**

**END-OF-LIFE PROTECTION:** Preserving Florida law that bans doctor-prescribed suicide?

**SUPPORT**

**FREEDOM TO SERVE:** Allowing health care providers and workers the freedom to serve in accord with their conscience?

**NO  
RESPONSE**

*Optional Comments: This question is too broad for me to state oppose or support. I find that unfortunately good conscience and the law are not always aligned. We must do what we believe to be right, but must be prepared to accept the consequences of our choices. Currently, federal statutes protect healthcare providers from performing health care services on religious or moral grounds. I do believe that decisions made based on hate of particular groups are not to be condoned. For example, antisemitism, racism, homophobia, sexism, etc should be removed from the workplace.*

**PARENTAL EMPOWERMENT:** Eliminating the requirement to attend public school the year prior to receiving a state scholarship for K-12 non-public schools?

**SUPPORT**

*Optional Comments: Having a mandatory minimum time may harm a child's education and needs. Each child should be evaluated individually and thus their plans changed appropriately whether they need more or less time in a public school. I hope to increase funding to all public schools to eliminate the need for a child to find another school.*

**PROTECTING WORKERS:** Requiring drinking water, shade, and annual heat illness training be provided for farmworkers and other outdoor workers?

**SUPPORT**

*Optional Comments: This is Florida and it is hot. OSHA Standards require an employer to provide potable water. Employers cannot require employees to pay for water that is provided. If this is a current issue, those employers must be investigated and educated on how to run a business.*

**RELIGIOUS FREEDOM:** Respecting the autonomy of non-public schools to maintain policies that distinguish dress codes and other aspects of student life on the biological basis of sex?

**NO  
RESPONSE**

*Optional Comments: This question is too broad for me to state oppose or support. I believe that a dress code should be applied equally among the sexes. In the Dignitatis Humanae, the Vatican council declares that the human person has a right to religious freedom which means that everyone "are to be immune from coercion on the part of individuals or of social groups and of any human power, in such wise that no one is to be forced to act in a manner contrary to his own beliefs, whether privately or publicly, whether alone or in association with others". While this may be a non-issue with the homogeneity of students likely to be attending a private Catholic school, we must not become overzealous in forcing our religious beliefs onto others.*