



FLORIDA CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS  
2020 Candidate Questionnaire Project



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FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - DISTRICT 69

**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 think the most important focus at this time is to support the infants and children of those struggling to put food on the table. The current limit of 24 weeks ensures the fetus can survive outside of the womb.*

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

*Optional Comments: I will work diligently with the Catholic Church to ensure we increase healthcare coverage for Floridians, especially during this health/economic crisis.*

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

*Optional Comments: Research has shown that housing first initiatives prove invaluable for stabilizing people and families (while also ultimately saving the state money). My support of the budget last session was contingent upon fully funding Sadowski Affordable Housing Trust Fund. I was proud that the legislature fully funded this trust fund, and was upset when the governor swept this fund.*

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

*Optional Comments: As a member of the Criminal Justice subcommittee, I will work alongside the Catholic Church to advocate for criminal justice reform.*

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

*Optional Comments: Not only do I support this, I will reach out to the alumna of my high school, Sr. Helen Prejan, to draw attention to the importance of repealing the death penalty. I will also work with others to educate my colleagues.*

**END-OF-LIFE PROTECTION:** Preserving Florida law that bans doctor-prescribed suicide? **NO RESPONSE**

*Optional Comments: While, I value the right to life, I am conflicted on this topic. Has our science outpaced our ethics here? Just because we can do something should we do it? This question applies as much to keeping people alive as it does to assisting people in dying. What I do know is that I am in favor of palliative care and relieving pain at the end of life. And, I promise to continue to read philosophy and ethics articles and books to help clarify my thinking here. I also will not put forward any legislation on this matter.*

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

*Optional Comments: As long as no public money is allocated to these providers and religious exemptions are clearly stated on websites and other promotional material.*

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

*Optional Comments: I sincerely feel privileged to have attended Catholic Schools from K-12th grade. I actually feel so grateful for the education and experience I received at St. Joseph's Academy (an all girl Catholic high school in Baton Rouge), that I currently contribute to endow a desk in my sister's name so girls with fewer resources can also attend SJA. This said, understand the "common good" according to Catholic social doctrine to ensure every person has access to the goods and resources of society so that they can completely and easily live fulfilling lives. Thus, the common*

*good is reached when we work together to improve the wellbeing of people in our society and the wider world. 90% of students attend public schools. Currently voucher programs are not money added to our education system but money taken away from the education system that promotes the common good. This is why I oppose such measure.*

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

**SUPPORT**

*Optional Comments: Since my first year of graduate school and my first year in Florida, I have advocated for farmworkers. Actually, I housed some of the college students coming down for a march in Immokalee for the Catholic Church and the Coalition of Immokalee Workers my first semester of graduate school.*

**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: As long as policies are clearly conveyed to parents and students prior to admission/payment of tuition. I honestly need to think through this aspect of religious freedom.*