

2024 ELECTION QUESTIONS

U.S. CONGRESS | MARYLAND CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

Each election cycle, the Maryland Catholic Conference sends a questionnaire to candidates who are seeking to represent our residents through elected office. Consistent with federal guidelines, these questions cover a range of issues and provide Catholics with information about the candidates' policy positions.

- 1 Poverty.** The Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and other similar initiatives provide funding for millions of poor Americans who cannot afford to adequately feed themselves or their families. Congress should oppose restrictions on SNAP that prevent the most vulnerable from receiving these benefits.
- 2 Abortion.** Congress should enact legislation permanently banning the use of taxpayer funding for abortion and banning abortion in federal healthcare facilities or from being performed by federal employees.
- 3 Immigration.** Congress should pass legislation to reform immigration policy to protect children and young people, such as the Protect Vulnerable Immigrant Youth Act, to provide humanitarian protection to abused, neglected or abandoned youth.
- 4 Education.** Congress should enact legislation, such as the Educational Choice for Children Act, which empowers parents in every state with expanded educational options through federal tax credit incentives that will fund scholarships for K-12 students, including those attending Catholic schools.
- 5 Environment.** Congress should pass legislation to encourage the responsible stewardship of the environment and its natural resources by protecting and promoting our national parks and wildlife preserves.
- 6 Family.** Congress should enact legislation to support families, mothers and children, such as increasing and extending the child tax credit to include unborn children, extending the Special Supplemental Nutrition Program for Women, Infants and Children (WIC) and providing increased funding for childcare programs and foster programs.
- 7 Conscience Protections.** Congress should pass legislation to ensure religious freedom and rights of conscience for healthcare workers and other government employees.

"In the Catholic Tradition, responsible citizenship is a virtue, and participation in political life is a moral obligation. This obligation is rooted in our baptismal commitment to follow Jesus Christ and to bear Christian witness in all we do." - *Faithful Citizenship*, 13



Put your faith into action. Vote.