

MARYLAND VOTE 2026

MARYLAND PRIMARY ELECTION CANDIDATE SURVEY CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 6

ABOUT THE SURVEYS

The Maryland Catholic Conference surveyed candidates seeking office in the General Assembly (as well as Governor and Congress; see separate documents; see mdcatholic.org/elections).

Candidates could choose “agree” or “disagree” and/or provide a statement for these questions:

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

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.

CONSCIENCE PROTECTIONS. Congress should pass legislation to ensure religious freedom and rights of conscience for healthcare workers and other government employees.

WHY SHOULD MARYLAND CATHOLICS VOTE FOR YOU?



The Maryland Catholic Conference does not endorse or oppose any candidate, under any circumstance, and no inference of endorsement or opposition should be concluded as a result of the information provided here.

MARYLAND VOTE 2026

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VOTE JUNE 11-18 (early voting) | JUNE 23 (Election Day)

These positions and statements provided by candidates to a Maryland Catholic Conference survey, plus materials at mdcatholic.org/elections, are resources to help you inform your conscience before voting. **Please see the separate gubernatorial and General Assembly surveys.**

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Candidate statements follow grid

	Poverty	Abortion	Immigration	Education	Environment	Family	Conscience Protections	Addl. Comments
DEMOCRATS								
George Gluck	●	X	●	X	●	●	X	Yes
Alexis Goldstein								
Daniel M. Krakower								
April McClain Delaney								
David J. Trone								
Ethan P. Wechtaluk	●	X	●	X	●	●	●	Yes
Kiambo White	●	●	●	●	●	●		Yes
A. Mark Wilks								
REPUBLICANS								
Chris Burnett								
Robin Ficker								
Mariela Roca	●	●	X	●	●	●	●	Yes

Green = agree | Red = disagree | Blank = no response



Candidate statements follow. Candidates may not have responded to every question.

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.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 6 CANDIDATES

Democrats

George Gluck	One cannot enjoy "liberty and the pursuit of happiness" without first enjoying good health! SNAP is only one of many ways we can enhance the health of those most vulnerable.
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Ethan P. Wechtaluk	Hunger is a solvable problem. SNAP keeps millions of families — including many in MD-06 — from going without. I strongly oppose restrictions that make benefits harder to access: work requirements that ignore the reality of low-wage labor, bureaucratic hurdles that punish people for being poor, and eligibility cuts dressed up as "reform." Every person has inherent dignity that doesn't disappear because of their income. My federal experience showed me how administrative barriers become real harm to real families. Congress should be expanding SNAP access, not dismantling it.
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Republicans

No response

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.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 6 CANDIDATES

Democrats

George Gluck We should do everything we can to limit the number of abortions in this country. Past prohibition did not work, so we should make the few abortions we ca not avoid safe. If we do as suggested, only the most vulnerable women will seek inexpensive and more dangerous alternatives.

Ethan P. Wechtaluk I respect the sincerity behind this position, but I cannot support a ban. Reproductive healthcare decisions belong to patients and their doctors — not Congress. Restricting access in federal facilities disproportionately harms low-income women, servicemembers, and federal employees who already face limited options. Conscience protections for providers are appropriate; blanket bans are not. I believe we can reduce the need for abortion through robust support for families, contraception access, and economic security — without stripping away medical care from the most vulnerable.

Republicans No response

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.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 6 CANDIDATES

Democrats

George Gluck As an immigrant myself, I have personally experienced this protection without the need for such legislation.

Ethan P. Wechtaluk Protecting abused, neglected, and abandoned children is not a partisan issue — it's a basic moral obligation. I strongly support the Protect Vulnerable Immigrant Youth Act and similar reforms that ensure children don't fall through the cracks of a broken system. I've seen firsthand in MD-06 how immigration enforcement without humanitarian guardrails tears families apart and leaves vulnerable kids exposed. Children fleeing abuse deserve protection. A humane immigration system recognizes that the most defenseless among us require the strongest safeguards — regardless of where they were born.

Republicans

Mariela Roca While protecting genuinely abused, neglected, or abandoned children is serious issue that needs to be addressed, bills like the Protect Vulnerable Immigrant Youth Act (PVIYA) are not the right approach. They expand protections and fast-track green cards for Special Immigrant Juvenile Status (SIJS) recipients without addressing the serious loopholes and abuses that currently exist in the system. Programs intended for vulnerable minors have been widely exploited. Gang members (including MS-13), criminals, and adults have successfully used or attempted to use SIJS to remain in the U.S.

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.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 6 CANDIDATES

Democrats

George Gluck

As a substitute high school STEM substitute in the public school systems of all five counties that comprise Congressional District 6, I see the advantages of encouraging public education for all our students. There may be other ways to aid in supporting private schools.

Ethan P. Wechtaluk

I believe federal education dollars should strengthen the public schools that serve the vast majority of American children, including the most underserved communities. Tax credit scholarship programs sound like choice, but in practice they divert scarce resources away from public systems that can't turn anyone away. Parents absolutely deserve quality options — and the answer is investing in every public school until that's true, not subsidizing parallel systems. I respect the mission of Catholic and other faith-based schools, but public funds should serve the public system.

Republicans

No response

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.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 6 CANDIDATES

Democrats

George Gluck Our bumper stickers since 2012: 'Gluck for Congress; Clean, Lean, Green'

Ethan P. Wechtaluk Our national parks and wildlife preserves are a shared inheritance — they belong to every American, regardless of income or zip code. I strongly support legislation that protects and expands these irreplaceable resources. Responsible environmental stewardship isn't anti-growth; it's the only sustainable path forward. In MD-06, I've seen how unchecked development pressures threaten green spaces and communities alike. Congress should be strengthening protections, not rolling them back for short-term economic gain. What we preserve today determines what future generations inherit tomorrow.

Republicans

Mariela Roca Yes, Congress should support responsible stewardship of our environment and natural resources, including protecting and promoting our national parks and wildlife preserves — but through practical, balanced policies, not extreme preservation mandates that ignore multiple-use principles.

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.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 6 CANDIDATES

Democrats	
George Gluck	I am not sure why we need to extend this credit to "unborn children." Is not extending it to their mothers-to-be sufficient?
Ethan P. Wechtaluk	Supporting families, mothers, and children is exactly where federal investment should go. I strongly support expanding the Child Tax Credit, fully funding WIC, and increasing childcare and foster care resources — these are high-return investments that reduce poverty and strengthen communities. On extending the CTC to unborn children: I support robust prenatal support programs, but I'm cautious about legislative language that conflates tax policy with questions of legal personhood. The goal should be helping real families meet real needs — and on that, we're in full agreement.
Republicans	
	No response

7. **CONSCIENCE PROTECTIONS.** Congress should pass legislation to ensure religious freedom and rights of conscience for healthcare workers and other government employees.

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 6 CANDIDATES

Democrats

George Gluck This first requires a clear definition of what constitutes "religion!"

Ethan P. Wechtaluk Religious freedom is meaningless if it only protects majority faiths. I support conscience protections for healthcare workers and government employees of all faith traditions — including Muslim, Jewish, Sikh, and other minority religious communities who too often face pressure to compromise their beliefs in the workplace. These protections must be applied consistently and cannot be used as cover to deny patients timely care or to discriminate against colleagues. Genuine conscience protection respects everyone at the table — worker and patient alike.

Republicans No response

8. WHY SHOULD MARYLAND CATHOLICS VOTE FOR YOU?

CONGRESSIONAL DISTRICT 6 CANDIDATES

Democrats

George Gluck

I believe voters of all religions (and no religion) should vote for me, a "prudent progressive." In 2019, Colman McCarthy invited me to talk with three of the classes he teaching about peace. He sign my copy of his book "I'd Rather Teach Peace" thusly: "To George: Keep on keeping the Faithand spreading the peace, as you've been doing all along."

Ethan P. Wechtaluk

We don't agree on everything — and I respect you too much to pretend otherwise. But on the issues that define a just society: feeding the hungry, protecting vulnerable children, welcoming the stranger, stewarding our environment, and defending the dignity of every person regardless of income or origin — I will fight for those values in Congress every single day. I've spent 15 years inside the federal system. I know how to make government actually deliver. Maryland Catholics deserve a representative who tells them the truth. That's what I'm offering.

Kiambo White

I am a direct and honest broker. I believe we do not get any where in life without help from others and your higher power.

Republicans

Mariela Roca

I'm an Air Force veteran, a mom of two, and a faithful Catholic who has worked hard to finish school and further my career while raising my family and caring for my terminally ill mother. I'm running for Congress because I've seen how far-left policies in Maryland and Washington have harmed our communities, our churches, and our families. I don't just talk about Catholic values — I live them and will fight to advance them in public policy. If you want a voice in Congress that truly reflects the teachings of the Church on life, family, and freedom, I ask for your support and your vote.
