

MARYLAND VOTE 2026

MARYLAND PRIMARY ELECTION CANDIDATE SURVEY GENERAL ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 33

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

ABOUT THE SURVEYS

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

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

ASSISTANCE TO THE POOR. Funding in Maryland’s budget should be maintained, and when necessary, increased to provide low-income residents access to basic necessities, such as food, housing and healthcare.

ENVIRONMENT. The State of Maryland should support initiatives such as tax credits or grant programs to encourage Maryland residents, businesses and non-profits to reduce their carbon footprint.

K-12 EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS. The State of Maryland should continue to expand existing funding to provide scholarships for low-income students who wish to attend the K-12 nonpublic school best suited for their educational needs.

PHYSICIAN ASSISTED SUICIDE/MEDICAL AID IN DYING. In 1999, the Maryland General Assembly passed legislation making it a felony for an individual to assist in another individual’s suicide. Maryland should uphold the law in its current form and reject legislation to legalize the practice of physician-assisted suicide/medical aid in dying.

WHY SHOULD MARYLAND CATHOLICS VOTE FOR YOU?

We encourage you to use these materials and the resources at mdcatholic.org/elections, to help you inform your conscience before voting.

Please note: 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.



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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 also see the Governor and U.S. Congress surveys.**

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Candidate statements follow grid

DISTRICT 33			Poverty	Environment	Education	Against Physician Assisted Suicide	Addl. Comments
STATE SENATE CANDIDATES							
33	D	Dawn D. Gile					
33	R	Amy Leahy					
STATE DELEGATE CANDIDATES							
33A	D	Andrew C. Pruski					
33A	D	Connor P. Roche					
33B	D	Chuck Cook	●	●	X	X	Yes
33B	R	Stuart M. Schmidt	●	●	●	●	Yes
33C	D	Heather A. Bagnall	●	●	X		Yes
33C	R	Kristin M. Norris	●	●	●	●	Yes

D = Democrat | R= Republican : Green = agree | Red = disagree | Blank = no response



1. ASSISTANCE TO THE POOR

Funding in Maryland’s budget should be maintained, and when necessary, increased to provide low-income residents access to basic necessities, such as food, housing and healthcare.

DISTRICT 33 SENATE CANDIDATES

No responses.

DISTRICT 33 DELEGATE CANDIDATES

33B	R	Stuart M. Schmidt	Yes we must work together to build up our low income residents, provide healthy food, affordable clothing, proper housing and affordable healthcare to prevent disease and to promote longevity.
33C	D	Heather A. Bagnall	As the former Chair of the Public Health and Minority Health Disparities Subcommittee and now Chair of the Health committee, health equity and addressing health disparities and access to quality care remains our guiding star. Additionally, we have made efforts to ensure access to care for our rural populations, expansion of Medicaid coverage for adult dental and medically tailored meals. Food insecurity and housing insecurity impact the overall wellbeing of the individual and must be considered through a public health lens.

2. ENVIRONMENT

The State of Maryland should support initiatives such as tax credits or grant programs to encourage Maryland residents, businesses and non-profits to reduce their carbon footprint.

No candidate statements.

3. K-12 EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS

The State of Maryland should continue to expand existing funding to provide scholarships for low-income students who wish to attend the K-12 nonpublic school best suited for their educational needs.

DISTRICT 33 SENATE CANDIDATES

No responses.

DISTRICT 33 DELEGATE CANDIDATES

33B	D	Chuck Cook	Private schools should be supported with private dollars, not taxpayer dollars. We should do everything we can to ensure that public tax dollars are not diverted from public schools to pay for private schools, thus shortchanging low-income public school students. We need to make public schools better, not defund them in order to benefit the companies and organizations that run private schools.
33B	R	Stuart M. Schmidt	I have fought hard in Annapolis to restore BOOST funding and always advocate for increase funds to promote and properly fund these programs. I also offered a floor amendment to encourage our State to enroll for the federal funding as well.
33C	D	Heather A. Bagnall	Education is the great equalizer, and public education is a public good. Public funds should support public education and the issue with scholarships for low-income students is that they restrict rather than expand access. Maryland Department of Education already provides for public funds for non-public and alternative schools for those students who have needs which cannot be met in a public school setting.

4. PHYSICIAN ASSISTED SUICIDE/MEDICAL AID IN DYING

In 1999, the Maryland General Assembly passed legislation making it a felony for an individual to assist in another individual's suicide. Maryland should uphold the law in its current form and reject legislation to legalize the practice of physician-assisted suicide/medical aid in dying.

DISTRICT 33 SENATE CANDIDATES

No responses.

DISTRICT 33 DELEGATE CANDIDATES

33B	D	Chuck Cook	People who are facing a terminal illness should be able to make the choice to end their own lives on their own terms, and not be forced to suffer a painful and lingering death. If elected I will be a vote to repeal that law, thus allowing those who are suffering, and who have no prognosis for recovery, the choice to decide for themselves.
33C	D	Heather A. Bagnall	I cannot answer this question as written as it is not an agree or disagree. Medical Aid in Dying is not the same as Physician Assisted Suicide nor is it as simple as suicide given the realities of the qualifying conditions which would allow for Medical Aid in Dying were it to pass. I would consider any legislation carefully and deliberatively as I do with all issues which come to my committee and to the floor.

5. WHY SHOULD MARYLAND CATHOLICS VOTE FOR YOU?

DISTRICT 33 SENATE CANDIDATES

No responses.

DISTRICT 33 DELEGATE CANDIDATES

33B	D	Chuck Cook	Because I believe that we were put on this Earth to serve each other the way that Jesus Christ commanded us to do. I believe in the dignity of each person, and that we are all our brothers and sisters keepers. It is through service to others, and compassion for one another, that we honor and praise Christ.
33B	R	Stuart M. Schmidt	Maryland Catholics should vote for me because of my strong focus on religious freedom, protection of rights and vocal opposition to state-funded discrimination against religious institutions in which I have filed legislation aimed at the protection of religious freedoms and limiting government interference. I took stances against legislation that could allow the state to sue private religious schools. I stand with my colleagues to defend parental rights in education. I sponsored bills to allow unaffiliated voters to participate in primary elections without being forced to align with a party.
33C	D	Heather A. Bagnall	Because I show up for my constituents and lead with our shared values. We don't agree on all issues, but we can agree that government should work for and provide for the people it serves. For eight years I have represented my district with an open heart and an open door and I don't shy away from the difficult conversations. Overwhelmingly my constituents have said even when we don't agree they feel listened to, respected, and understood. I have been intentional in this effort and have no intention to change.
33C	R	Kristin M. Norris	With being an Annapolis resident for over 50 years as well as an alumni of St Mary's, I will uphold the integrity and morals of my Catholic School upbringing. I wish to hear more of what I can do for our community within the Catholic Church and Schools.