



FLORIDA CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS
Candidate Questionnaire Project

2018 CANDIDATE RESPONSE
Florida Senate District 23

Faith Olivia Babis (DEM)

Do you support or oppose...

ABORTION REGULATION: Requiring parental consent before a minor child's abortion, notwithstanding previous judicial concerns?

OPPOSE

Optional Candidate Comment: *While it is always preferable that a minor feel like they can speak to their parents when dealing with complex issues such as abortion, in cases of abuse and incest this isn't always the case. There are too many contingencies for every exception to parental consent to be considered in legislation requiring parental consent.*

ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE: Increasing access to care for uninsured Floridians, especially the working poor?

SUPPORT

Optional Candidate Comment: *Access to healthcare should be a right, not a privilege only afforded to the wealthy.*

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

SUPPORT

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 physician-assisted suicide?

NO RESPONSE

Optional Candidate Comment: *As a person with a disability, this is a very complex issue for me. I do not want patients with terminal illnesses who are in the end stages of a disease and in significant pain to suffer. However, the disability community has frequently fallen victim to physician assisted suicide policies where people with disabilities who may have been suffering from issues such as depression and societally constructed barriers that impose hardships on the disability community, rather than pain and suffering caused by disability itself. In these circumstances, rarely are proper psychological assessments performed to rule out depression or are other strategies to ameliorate the cause of suffering explored. Until a physician-assisted suicide policy that effectively addresses these serious concerns of the disability community can be enacted then I have to continue to support the ban on behalf of my community.*

FREEDOM TO SERVE: Allowing individuals and organizations the freedom to serve the public in accord with reasoned conscientious beliefs related to sexuality and marriage?

OPPOSE

Optional Candidate Comment: *Serving the public means just that and should be inclusive of all members of the public. A doctor who happens to be a Jehovah's Witness has no right to deny a patient a blood transfusion because it is against that doctor's personal religious beliefs. It means that medicine might not be the appropriate line of work for that doctor. If someone is in a field in which they serve the public, then they should be required to serve all of their fellow human beings. I do not support discrimination, or any legislation, or any legislation that attempts to legalize discrimination.*

IMMIGRATION: Urging Congress to undertake extensive immigration reform, rather than adopting piecemeal state policies?

SUPPORT

JUVENILE JUSTICE: Establishing that children under 14 shall not be transferred to the adult criminal justice system?

SUPPORT

PARENTAL EMPOWERMENT: Creating education savings accounts to use for nonpublic school tuition?

OPPOSE

Optional Candidate Comment: *Public funds should only be used to fund public schools.*

SAFETY OF SCHOOLCHILDREN: Expanding existing legislative initiatives to harden the physical security of nonpublic schools?

OPPOSE

Optional Candidate Comment: *Public funds should only be used to fund public schools.*