

Michigan Catholic Conference 2002 Congressional Candidate Questionnaire

*...Governments are instituted among men,
deriving their just powers from
the consent of the governed.*

Declaration of Independence

One of the most important duties of an American citizen is casting a ballot in an election. This November, Michigan's citizens will be voting to select the fifteen representatives and one senator who will be responsible for making sure the voices of the people of Michigan are heard in the United States Congress.

In order to help the voters of Michigan make an informed choice about their representation in Washington, D.C., the Michigan Catholic Conference has solicited the positions of the thirty Democratic and Republican candidates for the U.S. House and Senate on a variety of issues. We are pleased to make their answers available to you.

Questionnaires were sent to the congressional and senate candidates from the major parties in early September 2002. Candidates were asked to mark whether their position was in support of, or in opposition to, the subject of questions found on pages two and three. Candidates were also given the opportunity of noting where they had no position on an issue.

In some cases, candidates provided comments or answers on questions unsolicited by the Michigan Catholic Conference. Because the MCC candidate questionnaire did not include a specific area for comment, these unsolicited comments and additions have not been reproduced here. The comments of the candidates will be provided upon request.

The Michigan Catholic Conference does not endorse or oppose any candidates, under any circumstances, and no inference of endorsement or opposition should be concluded as a result of information provided in this issue of *FOCUS*.

Questions Presented to Congressional Candidates

Abortion

1. **Medicaid funding.** Will you support or oppose maintaining the current restriction on federal Medicaid funding for abortions specified in the Hyde Amendment (namely, abortions performed to protect a mother's life and to end pregnancies caused by rape or incest), rather than expanding federal funding to abortions performed for other reasons?
2. **Partial-birth abortion.** Will you support or oppose a ban on the "dilation and extraction" abortion procedure (sometimes referred to as "partial-birth abortion") in all cases except when the procedure is deemed medically necessary to save the life of the mother?

Cloning

- 3 Will you support or oppose legislation to ban the cloning of human beings to produce human embryos for research purposes?

Death Penalty

4. Will you support or oppose the "Innocence Protection Act", designed to reduce the risk of executing innocent persons by providing access to DNA evidence and competent counsel in capital cases?

Education

5. **Tax credits.** Will you support or oppose legislation to provide tax credits to the parents of nonpublic *and* public school students to offset such education-related costs as tutoring and school supplies?
6. **Scholarships.** Will you support or oppose legislation to create demonstration programs that enable low-income parents to pay for the costs of their children's education in nonpublic schools?
7. **Special education.** This question relates to the Individuals with Disabilities education Act (IDEA). Will you support or oppose

legislation to enable the parents of nonpublic school children to obtain special-education services through providers of their choice?

Environment

Will you support or oppose an amendment to the Federal Water Pollution Control Act that:

8. (a) requires applicants for pollutant-discharge permits to submit to the EPA, with a permit application, a pollution-prevention plan detailing how the applicant will reduce its pollutant discharge?
9. (b) requires states to post clearly visible notices near polluted waters (that is, do not meet applicable water-quality standards, or are subject to restrictions on fish or shellfish consumption)?
10. (c) requires, whenever a penalty is assessed for violation of the Act, that the EPA recover no less than the amount of any economic benefit resulting from delayed compliance?

Foreign Policy

11. **Cuba embargo.** Will you support or oppose eliminating the restrictions on the trade of food and medicine between the U.S. and Cuba?
12. **Landmines.** Will you support or oppose legislation to end use by the U.S. of anti-personnel landmines?
13. **Human rights.** Will you support or oppose linking U.S. foreign policy regarding trade preferences, favored-nation status, or military aid to a country's human rights performance?

Health Care

14. **Access to services.** Will you support or oppose legislation to provide government-subsidized health-care services to individuals who are not eligible for Medicaid, but who live below the poverty level (e.g., \$15,020 for a family of three)?
-

15. Access for immigrants. Currently, low-income children and pregnant women who would be eligible for health benefits on the basis of income are denied those benefits solely because they are immigrants. Will you support or oppose permitting states the option to provide health coverage through Medicaid and state children's health insurance programs to documented immigrant children and pregnant women?

Housing

16. Will you support or oppose legislation to establish a national housing trust fund for the production and preservation of rental housing for low-income households?

Immigration

17. Legalized status for workers. Will you support or oppose legislation to legalize the status of immigrants who have lived in the U.S. for extended periods of time, and who have worked, paid taxes, and otherwise obeyed U.S. laws during those periods?

18. Long-term residents. Will you support or oppose legislation to permit long-term resident aliens who have committed minor criminal offenses (misdemeanors under U.S. criminal law) to avoid deportation if they can demonstrate rehabilitation and community ties?

Minimum Wage

19. Will you support or oppose legislation to raise the hourly minimum wage by \$1.50 (from \$5.15 per hour to \$6.65 per hour) by January of 2005?

Religious Freedom

20. Will you support or oppose legislation to protect the religious freedom of hospitals and health-care professionals to refuse to perform procedures or administer medications that violate their conscience?

Welfare

Currently, families leaving welfare are eligible to receive Transitional Medical Assistance for six months, and Food Stamps for five months. For families leaving welfare, will you support or oppose legislation to:

21. (a) increase Transitional Medical Assistance eligibility to five years, with automatic eligibility (that is, no sign-up requirement) in the first year?

22. (b) Increase eligibility for Food Stamps to one year?

Key to Answers Provided by Congressional Candidates

KEY: S = Support	O = Oppose	NP = No Position	NR = No Response	C = Comment
-------------------------	-------------------	-------------------------	-------------------------	--------------------

FOCUS

Volume 30, Number 3

September 2002

FOCUS is published by the Michigan Catholic Conference
505 North Capitol Avenue, Lansing, Michigan 48933

<http://www.micatholicconference.org/> • Staff Contact: Paul A. Long

For additional free copies of this FOCUS, contact the
Public Policy Division at Telephone: 517.372.9310 or FAX: 517.372.3940

© Michigan Catholic Conference

Candidate	Abortion		Cloning 3	Death Penalty 4	Education			Environment		
	1	2			5	6	7	8	9	10
U.S. Senate R Andrew Raczkowski D Carl Levin				<i>Did Not Respond</i> <i>Did Not Respond</i>						
U.S. Congress District 1 R Don Hooper D Bart Stupak	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O
U.S. Congress District 2 R Peter Hoekstra D Jeffrey A. Wrisley	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
U.S. Congress District 3 R Vernon Ehlers D Kathryn D. Lynnes	S	S	S	S <i>Did Not Respond</i>	S	S	S	S	S	S
U.S. Congress District 4 R Dave Camp D Lawrence Hollenbeck	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	O	S	O
U.S. Congress District 5 R <i>No Candidate</i> D Dale Kildee	S	S	S	S	NR	O	S	S	S	S
U.S. Congress District 6 R Fred Upton D Gary C. Giguere, Jr.	S	S	S	S <i>Did Not Respond</i>	S	S	S	NR	S	NR
U.S. Congress District 7 R Nick Smith D Michael A. Simpson	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	NP
U.S. Congress District 8 R Mike Rogers D Frank McAlpine				<i>Did Not Respond</i> <i>Did Not Respond</i>						
U.S. Congress District 9 R Joe Knollenberg D David Fink				<i>Did Not Respond</i> <i>Did Not Respond</i>						
U.S. Congress District 10 R Candice S. Miller D Carl J. Marlinga	S	S	S	S <i>Did Not Respond</i>	NP	O	S	S	S	S
U.S. Congress District 11 R Thaddeus G. McCotter D Kevin Kelley	S	S	S	S <i>Did Not Respond</i>	S	S	S	S	S	S
U.S. Congress District 12 R Harvey Dean D Sander Levin	S	S	S	S <i>Did Not Respond</i>	S	S	S	S	S	O
U.S. Congress District 13 R <i>No Candidate</i> D Carolyn Kilpatrick				<i>Did Not Respond</i>						
U.S. Congress District 14 R Dave Stone D John Conyers, Jr.	S	S	S	S <i>Did Not Respond</i>	S	S	S	S	O	S
U.S. Congress District 15 R Martin Kaltenbach D John Dingell	S	S	S	S <i>Did Not Respond</i>	O	S	NP	S	S	O

Candidate	Foreign Policy			Health Care		Housing	Immigration		Minimum Wage
	11	12	13	14	15	16	17	18	19
U.S. Senate R Andrew Raczkowski D Carl Levin						<i>Did Not Respond</i> <i>Did Not Respond</i>			
U.S. Congress District 1 R Don Hooper D Bart Stupak	S	NR	S	S	NR	NR S	O	O	NR S
U.S. Congress District 2 R Peter Hoekstra D Jeffrey A. Wrisley	S	NP	S	S	S	S S	O	NR	O S
U.S. Congress District 3 R Vernon Ehlers D Kathryn D. Lynnes	S	S	S	S	S	NP <i>Did Not Respond</i>	O	NP	S
U.S. Congress District 4 R Dave Camp D Lawrence Hollenbeck	S	S	O	S	S	S S	O	S	O S
U.S. Congress District 5 R <i>No Candidate</i> D Dale Kildee	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S	S
U.S. Congress District 6 R Fred Upton D Gary C. Giguere, Jr.	S	NR	O	S	S	S <i>Did Not Respond</i>	O	NR	NR
U.S. Congress District 7 R Nick Smith D Michael A. Simpson	S	S	NP	S	S	O S	S	NP	O S
U.S. Congress District 8 R Mike Rogers D Frank McAlpine						<i>Did Not Respond</i> <i>Did Not Respond</i>			
U.S. Congress District 9 R Joe Knollenberg D David Fink						<i>Did Not Respond</i> <i>Did Not Respond</i>			
U.S. Congress District 10 R Candice S. Miller D Carl. J. Marlinga	S	O	O	S	S	O <i>Did Not Respond</i>	O	O	O
U.S. Congress District 11 R Thaddeus G. McCotter D Kevin Kelley	S	S	O	S	S	S <i>Did Not Respond</i>	S	O	O
U.S. Congress District 12 R Harvey Dean D Sander Levin	S	NP	S	S	S	O <i>Did Not Respond</i>	S	NP	S
U.S. Congress District 13 R <i>No Candidate</i> D Carolyn Kilpatrick						<i>Did Not Respond</i>			
U.S. Congress District 14 R Dave Stone D John Conyers, Jr.	S	O	S	O	S	O <i>Did Not Respond</i>	O	S	O
U.S. Congress District 15 R Martin Kaltenbach D John Dingell	S	O	S	O	O	O <i>Did Not Respond</i>	O	O	O

Candidate	Religious Freedom 20	Welfare	
		21	22
U.S. Senate R Andrew Raczowski D Carl Levin		<i>Did Not Respond</i> <i>Did Not Respond</i>	
U.S. Congress District 1 R Don Hooper D Bart Stupak	S S	O S	S S
U.S. Congress District 2 R Peter Hoekstra D Jeffrey A. Wisley	S C	O S	S S
U.S. Congress District 3 R Vernon Ehlers D Kathryn D. Lynnes	S	NP	S <i>Did Not Respond</i>
U.S. Congress District 4 R Dave Camp D Lawrence Hollenbeck	S S	O S	O S
U.S. Congress District 5 R <i>No Candidate</i> D Dale Kildee	S	S	S
U.S. Congress District 6 R Fred Upton D Gary C. Giguere, Jr.	S	S	NR <i>Did Not Respond</i>
U.S. Congress District 7 R Nick Smith D Michael A. Simpson	S S	S	NP S
U.S. Congress District 8 R Mike Rogers D Frank McAlpine		<i>Did Not Respond</i> <i>Did Not Respond</i>	
U.S. Congress District 9 R Joe Knollenberg D David Fink		<i>Did Not Respond</i> <i>Did Not Respond</i>	
U.S. Congress District 10 R Candice S. Miller D Carl J. Marlinga	S	O	O <i>Did Not Respond</i>
U.S. Congress District 11 R Thaddeus G. McCotter D Kevin Kelley	S	S	S <i>Did Not Respond</i>
U.S. Congress District 12 R Harvey Dean D Sander Levin	S	O	S <i>Did Not Respond</i>
U.S. Congress District 13 R <i>No Candidate</i> D Carolyn Kilpatrick		<i>Did Not Respond</i>	
U.S. Congress District 14 R Dave Stone D John Conyers, Jr.	S	O	S <i>Did Not Respond</i>
U.S. Congress District 15 R Martin Kaltenbach D John Dingell	S	O	O <i>Did Not Respond</i>