

2024 PENNSYLVANIA ELECTIONS

Association for Public Justice

2024 VOTER GUIDE



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About APJ



BE HEARD. **BE COUNTED.**

In today's fast-paced, click-bait culture, thoughtful consideration of complex issues through a biblical lens is increasingly rare. This voter guide elevates critical issues that impact our neighbors, friends, and family through real conversations with candidates and voters.

Along the way, we will model a Christian approach to politics that replaces fear-mongering with hope, division with collaboration, and hostility with compassion.

[LEARN MORE AT APJUSTICE.ORG](https://www.apjustice.org)

Our Process: APJ's Voter Guide teams created questionnaires, asking each candidate about their stances on our key issues. We also researched candidates in depth and have laid out each candidate's positions on APJ's key issues. If candidates did not respond to our questionnaire or we found little information on their stances on these issues, we included that candidate's other priorities as well.

Family Supportive Policies

APJ supports policies that honor the institution of family and the dignity of work. We support reforms that strengthen state and federal paid family leave programs while protecting the role of small businesses and non-profit institutions, including faith-based organizations. We advocate for reforms that not only support parents of newborns or newly-adopted children but also families caring for vulnerable family members who are sick or elderly.

We see family supportive policies as an extension of a whole-life ethic that includes protections for the unborn. We have thus included candidates' stances on abortion under Family Supportive Policies.

Scan here for our Paid Family
Leave Advocacy Toolkit.



Institutional Religious Freedom

APJ advocates for policies that preserve and promote the freedom of faith-based organizations to serve and contribute to the common good:

- the freedom to hire staff on a religious basis
- the freedom to partner with the federal government to deliver vital social services consistent with religious convictions.

Scan here for APJ's Fairness
for All Advocacy Toolkit.



Ranked Choice Voting

APJ advocates for electoral reform that includes ranked choice voting, also called instant runoff voting. Ranked choice voting is a process that allows broad participation from a wide range of perspectives, enabling third-party and independent candidates to have a genuine voice in the political process.



Scan here to learn more about the need for ranked choice voting.

Juvenile Justice

APJ advocates for justice reforms at the local, state, and federal levels that reduce inequities in the criminal justice system and encourage a more restorative approach to justice., particularly for young offenders.



Scan here for our Juvenile Justice Advocacy Toolkit.

Predatory Payday Lending

When small, short-term loans are extended to vulnerable individuals at exorbitant interest rates, borrowers are often trapped in an endless cycle of debt. This practice violates fundamental biblical principles of human dignity and biblical prohibitions on usury. APJ advocates for laws such as the Veterans and Consumers Fair Credit Act ([S. 2833](#) and [H.R. 5050](#)) which cap the interest rate lenders are allowed to charge borrowers at 36% APR or lower.



Scan here to learn more about principles for just lending.

US Senate Candidates

Bob Casey Jr. (D - Incumbent)

Family Supportive Policies

- +Voted to advance the Women's Health Protection Act to restore the protections of Roe v. Wade and is fighting to protect IVF and contraception
- +Introduced the Pregnant Workers Fairness Act
- +Has worked to expand the Child Tax Credit

Electoral Reform

- +Supports the John Lewis Voting Rights Act

Other Key Issues

- +Supporting veterans
- +Expanding affordable healthcare
- +Lowering costs & reducing inflation

David McCormick (R)

Family Supportive Policies

- +Is pro-life but supports exceptions in the cases of rape, incest, and saving the life of the mother and is opposed to a national abortion ban
- +Seeks to reform education by "improving the quality of our schools by expanding school choice, committing to free expression, and valuing civics and the formation of good citizens"

Electoral Reform

- +Believes that "every Pennsylvanian needs to be able to have faith and confidence in our elections"

Other Key Issues

- +Securing the border
- +Protecting the Second Amendment
- +Reducing violent crime

John Thomas (L)

Key Issues

- +Seeks to "educate Pennsylvanians about libertarianism and expand the window of allowable opinion"
- +Seeks to stop war spending and stop inflation

US House of Representatives Candidates

District 12

Summer Lee (D - Incumbent)

Family Supportive Policies

- +Advocates for equitable school funding, and universal preschool and early childcare
- +Advocates for restoring Roe v. Wade
- +Supports investing in midwifery health care coverage and addressing the Black maternal health crisis

Election Reform

- +Advocates for easier voting, including federal automatic voter registration, nationwide early and mail voting, federal holidays for election days, and same day voter registration
- +Has cosponsored many bills in Congress to strengthen voting rights

Institutional Religious Freedom

- +Supports the Equality Act

Criminal Justice Reform

- +Ending the school-to-prison pipeline

James Hayes (R)

Family Supportive Policies

- +Advocates for school choice
- +Promises to “confront the anti-job radicals in Congress that have worked to shut down our manufacturing plants and end family sustaining jobs”

Criminal Justice Reform

- +Promises to “work to make certain that violent criminals end up where they belong: prison... [and] take on and defeat the “squad” members in DC who want to defund the police

Other Key Issues

- +Securing the border
- +Achieving energy independence
- +Supporting Israel

District 14

Chris Dziados (D)

Family Supportive Policies

- +Advocates for abortion access
- +Advocates for increased and diversified education funding, including trade schools
- +Is committed to safeguarding healthcare rights for all Americans

Other Key Issues

- +Investing in national security
- +Generating more well-paying jobs
- +Supporting veterans
- +Keeping America “at the forefront of the next great revolution in technology and science”

Guy Reschenthaler (R - Incumbent)

Family Supportive Policies

- +Prioritizes pro-life policies and protecting the unborn

Other Key Issues

- +Investing in national security
- +Creating jobs and strengthening the economy
- +Securing the border, reforming immigration, and ending sanctuary cities nationwide
- +Cutting taxes and “stopping extreme liberals from raising taxes”
- +”Protecting the rights of law-abiding citizens to purchase, possess, and use firearms”

US House of Representatives Candidates

District 16

Preston Nouri (D)

Family Supportive Policies

- +Advocates for universal meals for all public school students
- +Advocates for accessible and affordable healthcare
- +Opposes a national abortion ban

Electoral Reform

- +Advocates for easy and accessible voting
- +Promises to work to end partisan gerrymandering and make voting easier for Pennsylvanians

Mike Kelly (R - Incumbent)

Family Supportive Policies

- +Advocates for expanding parental choice in education
- +Supports "legislation to fix the tax code with common sense changes that ensure everyone pays their fair share and families have less of a tax burden"

Other Key Issues

- +Protecting veterans and improving the VA healthcare system
- +Taking "environmentally responsible steps towards American energy independence"

District 17

Chris Deluzio (D - Incumbent)

Family Supportive Policies

- +Advocates for "federal and state action to codify the right to an abortion"
- +Seeks to expand Medicare to allow healthcare for all Americans, and to include home care services for seniors and people with disabilities

Electoral Reform

- +Committed to defending democracy from "Republican voter suppression efforts"
- +Supports legislation like the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act and the Freedom to Vote Act

Other Key Issues

- +Supports common sense gun reform and supported the Bipartisan Safer Communities
- +Advocates for unions

Rob Mercuri (R)

Family Supportive Policies

- +Seeks "to accelerate our world-class healthcare innovation and double down on job and wage growth for people across the region"
- +Advocates for supporting "parents and families first by passing a parental bill of rights for education"

Other Key Issues

- +Reduce inflation and cost of living
- +Securing the border
- +Fully funding military and supporting veterans
- +Supporting and funding Israel

★ VOTING ★ INFORMATION

Wondering which district you live in?

Scan here and find out! You'll input your address to get a sample ballot with all of the races that you'll vote on in November.



WHAT'S YOUR VOTE WORTH?

Madeline Pannell is the Shared Justice Fellow at the Center for Public Justice. She is part of the Capital Fellows Program in McLean, VA, and recently graduated from the University of Virginia with a B.A. in East Asian Studies. In April, Madeline wrote an article for the Center for Public Justice addressing the disillusionment that young people are experiencing when deciding whether or not to vote. She writes to Gen Z, but her words apply to Americans of all ages. How many of us, in the midst of so much political tension and division, wonder, “Does my vote even make a difference?” In response, here is an excerpt from Madeline’s article.

If we see voting primarily as a right to be exercised, then we can opt in or out of the process as our feelings about the political system ebb and flow...Voting, however, does not just impact my identity and my life. When we vote, it shapes the lives of our families, our neighbors and our communities. Voting has consequences for those in our cities who are hungry, unhoused, unable to pay medical bills, or unemployed. It impacts the education children get. It affects the cost of living in your city. It influences interest rates on home, auto and student loans, too.

Jesus instructed his disciples: “Love your neighbor as yourself” (Mark 12:31). We, as disciples of Jesus, care about voting because we care about how voting impacts our neighbors... Caring for and serving others is a core tenet of the Christian life. When we view voting as an act of responsibility in caring for our neighbors and community, we bring the beauty and justice our faith offers as a hopeful light to our political square.

Christian faith sees political action (in this case, voting) as service for our neighbors’ good, as opposed to seeking personal fulfillment and validation through the vote. As Christians, we are free to serve our neighbors with our vote precisely because our need for identity and security is met in Christ alone. Furthermore, the more we view voting through the lens of humble Christian service, the more we might see that voting is just the beginning of our civic engagement.

Scan here for the full article.



ABOUT APJ

APJ provides meaningful pathways for cross-partisan political engagement to enable Christian citizens to pursue the flourishing of their communities at the local, state, and federal level.

Want to get involved?

Email contact@apjustice.org or visit apjustice.org to learn how you can support our cause.