



**FLORIDA CONFERENCE OF CATHOLIC BISHOPS**  
*2020 Candidate Questionnaire Project*



**Lloyd Dabbs (DEM)**

**FLORIDA HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES - DISTRICT 52**

**DO YOU SUPPORT OR OPPOSE...**

**ABORTION LIMITS:** Prohibiting abortion when a fetus has reached 20 weeks gestation and has the capacity to feel pain? **SUPPORT**

*Optional Comments: I am a pro-choice candidate, but understand the limits and circumstances by which we must take precaution. My goal is always to ensure that abortion is rare, safe, and legal.*

**ACCESS TO HEALTH CARE:** Increasing health coverage options for uninsured Floridians, especially the unemployed and the working poor? **SUPPORT**

*Optional Comments: My mother died due to lack of healthcare access. I believe that as good christians, it is our obligation to care for the sick, the elderly, and anyone who needs our support. We can do this through ethical and comprehensive legislation that demand equality and healthcare accessibility under the law. Denial of healthcare, when we have the means to care for the sick of a moral abomination.*

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

*Optional Comments: We have a real problem in Brevard County. Median monthly rent increases are at record highs and nearly 30% of Brevard's renters qualified as severely overburdened. This isn't just a problem for extremely low-income workers, the problem is expanding to traditionally middle class wage earners in Brevard and will impact how we attract new families to the region. Therefore we must explore tested policies for affordable housing have proven success First and foremost, we will ensure the \$2B dollar Sadowski Trust for affordable housing is fully funded every year. But we have more work to do which includes exploration of rent control policies, streamlining permitting for residential construction, creating affordable housing loan funds to spur development, capping property tax increases for dwellings that include a portion of low-income housing, and allow/promote tiny houses in key portions of the district. We have seen failed policies in other states result in increased homelessness.*

**CRIMINAL JUSTICE:** Authorizing courts to impose a sentence less than the mandatory minimum term of imprisonment for nonviolent crimes? **SUPPORT**

*Optional Comments: Mandatory sentencing does not work and inherently affects low-middle income people of color. I will fight to reduce the minimum term of imprisonment by 15% and place comprehensive criminal justice reform at the top of my agenda. Again, we were a nation founded on Christian ideals and we should be careful not to fall further into a prison state.*

**DEATH PENALTY REPEAL:** Ending Florida's use of the death penalty while preserving the alternative of a life sentence without parole? **SUPPORT**

*Optional Comments: I do not support the death penalty, especially in a system that sees too many systemic failures and innocent people incarcerated for crimes they did not commit. I am for judgement, but not for the death penalty.*

**END-OF-LIFE PROTECTION:** Preserving Florida law that bans doctor-prescribed suicide? **SUPPORT**

*Optional Comments: I must add that we have to pass end-of-life legislation that ensures that people under our care make their wishes known. This ultimately reduces medical costs and shortens painful delays in how we deal with end-of-life care.*

**FREEDOM TO SERVE:** Allowing health care providers and workers the freedom to serve in accord with their conscience? **OPPOSE**

*Optional Comments: I will use this forum to speak more about religious tolerance. Just as Jesus cared for all of his followers, so must we all. In the case of medical care professionals, they are duty bound to provide care without judgement of another person's lifestyle choices, income, social status or otherwise. I would posit that any legislation that allows freedom to "serve in accord with their conscience" is code for bigotry and they should find another line of profession. Do no harm, heal the sick, love thy neighbor...these are non-negotial tenets that we live by and when it comes to healthcare, we must protect everyone's right to receive critical care without restriction.*

**PARENTAL EMPOWERMENT:** Eliminating the requirement to attend public school the year prior to receiving a state scholarship for K-12 non-public schools?

**SUPPORT**

**PROTECTING WORKERS:** Requiring drinking water, shade, and annual heat illness training be provided for farmworkers and other outdoor workers?

**SUPPORT**

*Optional Comments: I come from an agricultural town in California where we worked and lived side-by-side with farm workers and outdoor workers. Worker's rights must be protected at every level, most importantly at the human level where we have a moral obligation to help our neighbors.*

**RELIGIOUS FREEDOM:** Respecting the autonomy of non-public schools to maintain policies that distinguish dress codes and other aspects of student life on the biological basis of sex?

**OPPOSE**

*Optional Comments: God made each of us in his own image and I am an ally for any young child who struggles with sexual identify and who is strong enough to come forward with their inner-self image. Acceptance and love are powerful drivers for this part of my agenda and as a graduate of St. Joseph High School, I was raised to believe that our Church fundamentally held that same level of tolerance for each of God's children.*