

U.S. House, District 14

Incumbent Kathy Castor (D) running in a Tampa district redrawn in 2026 to favor Republicans.

Mike Beltran

REPUBLICAN · CHALLENGER

Attorney; former Florida state representative (2018–2024).

Kathy Castor

DEMOCRAT · INCUMBENT

U.S. Representative since 2007; former environmental attorney.

Where the candidates stand on the issues Pope Leo XIV has raised, in their own words and votes. Bracketed numbers link to sources. We do not rate, score, or endorse candidates.

WAR & PEACE

POPE LEO XIV *Leo invited citizens of every country involved in the war with Iran to contact their leaders and members of Congress “to work for peace and to reject war and violence.”* [Remarks at Castel Gandolfo, Apr. 7, 2026](#) ([Vatican News](#) via [The Good Newsroom](#))

MIKE BELTRAN

Supports “a strong national defense”; no public position found on Iran, Israel or Ukraine.

[1] Beltran campaign: [Platform](#)

KATHY CASTOR

Voted for Iran war powers resolutions, saying “Congress—not a president acting alone” must decide on war absent an imminent threat.

[1] [Castor statement on Iran War Powers Resolution](#)

[2] [House roll call 85 \(2026\): Iran war powers resolution](#)

[3] [House roll call 307 \(2026\): Iran war powers resolution](#)

VOTING RECORD

Iran war powers resolutions, Mar.–Sept. 2026 (six House votes): **Yes** Mar., Apr., May, June, July, Sept.

Yes Ukraine Support Act (H.R. 2913), June 2026 — authorizes support for Ukraine

AI & THE DIGNITY OF WORK

POPE LEO XIV *“No one can be reduced to productivity, to cognitive performance, or to mere data.”* [Magnifica Humanitas presentation, May 25, 2026](#)

MIKE BELTRAN

Says no data center should be built in Hillsborough County without local approval and a guarantee it will not raise energy bills or harm the environment.

[1] Beltran campaign: [Platform](#)

KATHY CASTOR

Lead sponsor of the Ratepayer Protection Act, which passed the House in 2026, so “Big Tech” pays data centers’ grid costs; opposes data centers in Hillsborough County. Voted for the Faster Labor Contracts Act.

[1] [Castor: Ratepayer Protection Act passes](#)

[2] [Castor opposes Hillsborough data centers](#)

[3] [House roll call 216 \(2026\): Faster Labor Contracts Act](#)

VOTING RECORD

Yes Protect America’s Workforce Act (H.R. 2550), Dec. 2025 — nullifies the executive order ending union bargaining for many federal workers

Yes Faster Labor Contracts Act (H.R. 5408), June 2026 — sets deadlines for reaching first union contracts

THE POOR & THE SAFETY NET

POPE LEO XIV *The preferential choice for the poor is “a source of extraordinary renewal both for the Church and for society.”* [Dilexi Te, Oct. 4, 2025](#)

MIKE BELTRAN

Highlights state work expanding telehealth and removing barriers to new clinics; has not stated positions on Medicaid, SNAP or the 2025 reconciliation law.

[1] Beltran campaign: [Platform](#)

KATHY CASTOR

Voted against the 2025 reconciliation law; said “Medicaid, the ACA and SNAP are a lifeline for my neighbors in Florida” and warned of lost coverage and higher premiums.

[1] House roll call 190 (2025): [One Big Beautiful Bill Act](#)

[2] Castor statement on 2025 reconciliation bill

VOTING RECORD

No One Big Beautiful Bill Act (H.R. 1), final passage July 2025 — tax cuts with Medicaid and SNAP changes

Yes Breaking the Gridlock Act (H.R. 1834), Jan. 2026 — extends enhanced ACA premium tax credits through 2028

LIFE OF THE UNBORN

POPE LEO XIV *Abortion “cuts short a growing life and refuses to welcome the gift of life.”* [Address to the Diplomatic Corps, Jan. 9, 2026](#)

MIKE BELTRAN

Says Dobbs “was correctly decided” and states should set abortion policy with exceptions for rape, incest and the mother’s life; as a legislator he sponsored a bill making performing an abortion a felony.

[1] Beltran campaign: [Platform](#)

[2] Florida Phoenix: [Castor faces her toughest battle](#)

RECORD IN OFFICE

Yes SB 300 (2023), prohibiting most abortions after six weeks of pregnancy — final passage

KATHY CASTOR

Voted against the 2025 Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act; signed a 2024 delegation statement opposing Florida’s six-week abortion ban.

[1] House roll call 27 (2025): [Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act](#)

[2] Soto: [Florida Democratic delegation statement on six-week ban \(2024\)](#)

VOTING RECORD

No Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act (H.R. 21), Jan. 2025 — requires care for infants born alive after an attempted abortion

No Supporting Pregnant and Parenting Women and Families Act (H.R. 6945), Jan. 2026 — lets states use TANF funds for pregnancy centers

THE DEATH PENALTY

POPE LEO XIV *Someone who opposes abortion but favors the death penalty “is not really pro-life.”* [AP via PBS NewsHour, Sept. 30, 2025](#)

MIKE BELTRAN

No campaign statement found. See voting record below.

RECORD IN OFFICE

No SB 450 (2023), allowing death sentences on an 8–4 jury recommendation instead of a unanimous jury — final passage

Yes HB 1297 (2023), authorizing the death penalty for sexual battery of a child under 12

KATHY CASTOR

No public position found.

IMMIGRANTS & REFUGEES

POPE LEO XIV *“Defending human life also includes welcoming, protecting and assisting immigrants.”* [Letter on the 250th Anniversary of the United States, June 25, 2026](#)

MIKE BELTRAN

Says he “stands 100% with President Trump on immigration,” including finishing the wall and deporting criminals; also supports H-1B and guest-worker visas.

[1] Beltran campaign: [Platform](#)

[2] Florida Phoenix: [Castor faces her toughest battle](#)

RECORD IN OFFICE

Yes SB 1718 (2023), immigration law on E-Verify, transporting undocumented immigrants and related penalties — final passage

KATHY CASTOR

Backs border-enforcement funding and “a pathway ... to citizenship” for those who follow the rules; calls ICE “out of control” and wants agents to wear body cameras. Voted against the Laken Riley Act.

[1] Florida Phoenix: [Castor faces her toughest battle](#)

[2] House roll call 23 (2025): [Laken Riley Act](#)

VOTING RECORD

No Laken Riley Act (S. 5), Jan. 2025 — requires detention of undocumented immigrants charged with theft and certain crimes

No Secure America Act (S. 2), June 2026 — reconciliation funding for ICE and Customs and Border Protection

Yes Haiti TPS bill (H.R. 1689), Apr. 2026 — requires temporary protected status for Haitians

RELIGIOUS LIBERTY & EDUCATION

POPE LEO XIV *Religious freedom is “the right of every person to worship according to conscience.”* [Letter on the 250th Anniversary of the United States, June 25, 2026](#)

MIKE BELTRAN
Championed school choice in the Florida Legislature and says parents should choose “the education that works for their family.”
[\[1\] Beltran campaign: Platform](#)
[\[2\] Beltran campaign: school choice statement](#)
RECORD IN OFFICE
Yes SB 7070 (2019), K-12 education bill creating the Family Empowerment Scholarship for private schools — final passage
Did not voteHB 1 (2023), expanding state education scholarships to all K-12 students — House passage

KATHY CASTOR
No campaign statement found. See voting record below.
VOTING RECORD
No One Big Beautiful Bill Act (H.R. 1), July 2025 — created a federal tax credit for donations to K–12 scholarship organizations

CARE FOR CREATION

POPE LEO XIV *“We cannot love God, whom we cannot see, while despising his creatures.”* [AP, Oct. 1, 2025](#)

MIKE BELTRAN
No campaign statement found. See voting record below.
RECORD IN OFFICE
Yes HB 1645 (2024), energy resources bill revising state energy policy, including removing climate-change references — House passage

KATHY CASTOR
Says America “should be committed to renewable energy and energy conservation”; chaired the House climate select committee that issued a 2020 clean-energy action plan.
[\[1\] Castor: Energy/Environment](#)
[\[2\] Florida Phoenix: Castor faces her toughest battle](#)
VOTING RECORD
No Resolution overturning EPA approval of California vehicle-emission rules (H.J.Res. 87), Apr. 2025
No Homeowner Energy Freedom Act (H.R. 4758), Feb. 2026 — repeals home-electrification rebates from the 2022 climate law

Full guide and every race in Florida: standwithpopeleo.com/vote/florida/ · **Take the Pope Leo voter pledge:** standwithpopeleo.com/vote/
This guide does not endorse any candidate or party. Not authorized by any candidate or candidate’s committee. Positions are summarized from candidates’ own statements, votes, and campaign materials, with sources linked. Published by *Letters from Leo*. Spot an error? Email cjh@christopherhale.com.