2026 CATHOLIC VOTER GUIDE · LOUISIANA · LETTERS FROM LEO

U.S. Senate

Open seat (Sen. Bill Cassidy lost the Republican primary to Letlow). Rated Solid Republican by Cook Political Report (Oct 2026); a Davis-commissioned Hart Research poll (Oct 28–29) showed a 45–45 tie.



Jamie Davis

DEMOCRAT · OPEN SEAT

Farmer and small-business owner from Waterproof; former Tensas Parish police juror.



Julia Letlow

REPUBLICAN · OPEN SEAT

U.S. Representative for Louisiana's 5th District since 2021; former university administrator.

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)

JAMIE DAVIS

Says "Congress is supposed to have the say over war" and calls for "a steadier hand abroad"; names the Iran war among policies raising costs.

[1] Jamie Davis campaign: Issues
[2] WWNO/WRKF: Meet the U.S. Senate candidates (Oct 2026)

JULIA LETLOW

Praised the 2026 U.S. strikes on Iran, saying they show "America will not tolerate Iran's threats."

[1] OnTheIssues: Julia Letlow on war and peace

VOTING RECORD

Iran war powers resolutions, Mar.–Sept. 2026 (six House votes): **No** Mar., Apr., June, July, Sept. · **Other**May

No 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

JAMIE DAVIS

Wants independent safety reviews of major AI models before release and a federal moratorium on data centers; supports raising the federal minimum wage.

[1] WWNO/WRKF: Meet the U.S. Senate candidates (Oct 2026)
[2] Jamie Davis campaign: Issues

JULIA LETLOW

Platform supports maritime workforce development and protecting seafood processing jobs. No stated position found on AI.

[1] Julia Letlow campaign: Julia's Plan

VOTING RECORD

No Protect America's Workforce Act (H.R. 2550), Dec. 2025 — nullifies the executive order ending union bargaining for many federal workers

No 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

JAMIE DAVIS

Pledges to defend Medicaid and ACA subsidies, reverse recent coverage cuts and restore SNAP benefits; calls the 2025 reconciliation law harmful.

[1] WWNO/WRKF: Meet the U.S. Senate candidates (Oct 2026)
[2] Jamie Davis campaign: Issues

JULIA LETLOW

Platform pledges to lower health care and prescription drug costs and strengthen nutrition standards in federal programs. No stated position found on Medicaid or SNAP changes.

[1] Julia Letlow campaign: Julia's Plan

VOTING RECORD

Yes One Big Beautiful Bill Act (H.R. 1), final passage July 2025 — tax cuts with Medicaid and SNAP changes

No Breaking the Gridlock Act (H.R. 1834), Jan. 2026 — extends enhanced ACA premium tax credits through 2028

ELECTIONS & CIVIC LIFE

POPE LEO XIV *Authentic democracy, "far from being a mere procedure," "recognizes the dignity of every person and calls each citizen to participate responsibly in the pursuit of the common good."* Message to the Pontifical Academy of Social Sciences, Apr. 9, 2026

JAMIE DAVIS

Supports "a national ban on partisan gerrymandering."

[1] WWNO/WRKF: Meet the U.S. Senate candidates (Oct 2026)
[2] WWNO/WRKF: Senate candidates Q&A (Jun 2026)

JULIA LETLOW

Platform calls for proof of citizenship to vote in federal elections, stronger voter ID and cleaner voter rolls; said in 2021 she would have objected to certifying the 2020 election.

[1] Julia Letlow campaign: Julia's Plan
[2] OnTheIssues: Julia Letlow on government reform

VOTING RECORD

No Presidential Election Reform Act (H.R. 8873), Sept. 2022 — says the vice president's role in counting electoral votes is ministerial and raises the threshold for objections

Yes SAVE America Act (House amendment to S. 1383), Feb. 2026 — requires documentary proof of citizenship to register and photo ID to vote in federal elections

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

JAMIE DAVIS

Says "a woman should have the right to make decisions about her body with her doctor."

[1] WWNO/WRKF: Meet the U.S. Senate candidates (Oct 2026)

JULIA LETLOW

Says "I am unapologetically pro-life."

[1] WWNO/WRKF: Senate candidates Q&A (Jun 2026)

VOTING RECORD

Yes Born-Alive Abortion Survivors Protection Act (H.R. 21), Jan. 2025 — requires care for infants born alive after an attempted abortion

Yes 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

JAMIE DAVIS

Opposes the death penalty: "It is not up to us to decide whether someone lives or dies."

[1] WWNO/WRKF: Senate candidates Q&A (Jun 2026)

JULIA LETLOW

Says "I support the death penalty for the most heinous crimes."

[1] WWNO/WRKF: Senate candidates Q&A (Jun 2026)

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

JAMIE DAVIS

Would end private-prison contracts for immigration detention and opposes raids in neighborhoods, school pickup lines and grocery store parking lots.

[1] WWNO/WRKF: Meet the U.S. Senate candidates (Oct 2026)

JULIA LETLOW

Platform calls to finish the border wall, "deport criminal illegal aliens and gang members" and end catch-and-release.

[1] Julia Letlow campaign: Julia's Plan
[2] WWNO/WRKF: Senate candidates Q&A (Jun 2026)

VOTING RECORD

Yes Laken Riley Act (S. 5), Jan. 2025 — requires detention of undocumented immigrants charged with theft and certain crimes

Yes Secure America Act (S. 2), June 2026 — reconciliation funding for ICE and Customs and Border Protection

No 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

JAMIE DAVIS

Campaign platform says he will "respect religious liberty" and backs strong public schools. No stated position found on school choice.

[1] Ballotpedia: Jamie Davis

JULIA LETLOW

Pledges to keep "fighting for school choice, parents' rights" and to expand educational freedom.

[1] WWNO/WRKF: Senate candidates Q&A (Jun 2026)
[2] Julia Letlow campaign: Julia's Plan

VOTING RECORD

Yes 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

JAMIE DAVIS

Wants stricter Clean Air Act enforcement and no new permits in burdened communities; opposes eminent domain for carbon pipelines and supports coastal restoration.

[1] Jamie Davis campaign: Issues
[2] WWNO/WRKF: Meet the U.S. Senate candidates (Oct 2026)

JULIA LETLOW

Wants to increase American energy production and reverse "anti-energy regulations"; says carbon storage projects without local buy-in "should not move forward."

[1] Julia Letlow campaign: Julia's Plan
[2] WWNO/WRKF: Senate candidates Q&A (Jun 2026)

VOTING RECORD

Yes Resolution overturning EPA approval of California vehicle-emission rules (H.J.Res. 87), Apr. 2025

Yes Homeowner Energy Freedom Act (H.R. 4758), Feb. 2026 — repeals home-electrification rebates from the 2022 climate law

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