

U.S. Senate

Open seat (Gary Peters retiring).

Abdul El-Sayed

DEMOCRAT · OPEN SEAT

Physician and epidemiologist; former Detroit health director and Wayne County health director.

Mike Rogers

REPUBLICAN · OPEN SEAT

Former U.S. Representative and House Intelligence Committee chairman; former Army officer and FBI special agent.

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](#))

ABDUL EL-SAYED

Opposes the Iran war and demands “an immediate end to the hostilities,” favoring diplomacy like the JCPOA. Supports an immediate arms embargo on Israel, calls Gaza a genocide, and backs supporting Ukraine against Russia.

[\[1\] Abdul for Senate: Sensible Foreign Policy](#)

MIKE ROGERS

Initially backed U.S.-Israeli military action against Iran but now says “we need [the war] to come to an end.” Supports continued weapons aid to Israel, saying it has “the right to defend itself.”

[\[1\] Michigan Public: Rogers, El-Sayed debate \(Oct. 9, 2026\)](#)

[\[2\] Al Jazeera: First debate takeaways \(Oct. 9, 2026\)](#)

RECORD IN OFFICE

Yes Authorization for Use of Military Force Against Iraq (H.J. Res. 114), 2002

No H. Con. Res. 63 (2007) — disapproving deployment of more than 20,000 additional U.S. combat troops to Iraq

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](#)

ABDUL EL-SAYED

Supports AI guardrails, frontier-model safety testing and opposing federal preemption of state laws. For workers displaced by automation, backs exploring wage insurance and basic income and a stronger union voice.

[\[1\] Abdul for Senate: Artificial Intelligence; Jobs and Trade](#)

MIKE ROGERS

Criticized GM’s stock buyback after EV losses as putting “profits over people” and pledged to “fight for auto jobs and Michigan manufacturing.” No specific AI policy found.

[\[1\] Rogers for Senate: Statement on GM stock buyback \(Oct. 2026\)](#)

RECORD IN OFFICE

No Employee Free Choice Act (H.R. 800), 2007 — allowed union recognition through majority sign-up

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

ABDUL EL-SAYED

Lists passing Medicare for All among his top Senate priorities; also proposes abolishing medical debt and taxing billionaire wealth.

[\[1\] Abdul for Senate: Priorities](#)

[\[2\] Abdul for Senate: Money in Your Pocket](#)

MIKE ROGERS

Health plan calls for price transparency, expanded TrumpRx drug purchasing and penalties for insurers with excessive denials. Has floated ending no-cost preventive care under the ACA and recreating high-risk pools.

[\[1\] Rogers for Senate: Healthcare plan](#)

[\[2\] Bridge Michigan: Rogers floats copays, high-risk pools \(Apr. 2026\)](#)

RECORD IN OFFICE

No Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (H.R. 3590), final House passage, March 2010

Yes Nutrition Reform and Work Opportunity Act (H.R. 3102), 2013 — reduced SNAP spending and expanded work requirements

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

ABDUL EL-SAYED

Supports abortion rights and would “codify the rights once protected by Roe v. Wade into federal law”; opposes efforts to criminalize certain medications.

[\[1\] Abdul for Senate: Medicare for All / Healthcare Freedom](#)

MIKE ROGERS

Says he supported overturning Roe v. Wade and would back a permanent ban on federal abortion funding, but does not favor a full national abortion ban, citing Michigan’s 2022 Proposal 3 vote.

[\[1\] Mining Gazette: Rogers makes Senate campaign stop in Houghton](#)

RECORD IN OFFICE

Yes Partial-Birth Abortion Ban Act (S. 3), 2003 — conference report banning the partial-birth abortion procedure

Yes Pain-Capable Unborn Child Protection Act (H.R. 1797), 2013 — barred most abortions 20 weeks after fertilization

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

ABDUL EL-SAYED

No public position found.

MIKE ROGERS

No campaign statement found. See voting record below.

RECORD IN OFFICE

Yes Gang Deterrence and Community Protection Act (H.R. 1279), 2005 — raised gang-crime penalties, adding death-eligible offenses

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

ABDUL EL-SAYED

Calls for abolishing ICE and replacing it with a new enforcement structure, repurposing its funds toward immigration courts and “a clear pathway to citizenship.” In debate said ICE “is about terrorising our streets.”

[\[1\] Abdul for Senate: Immigration](#)

[\[2\] Al Jazeera: First debate takeaways \(Oct. 9, 2026\)](#)

MIKE ROGERS

Defends ICE enforcement and Trump administration deportations of people committing crimes: “Find those folks who are committing crimes and get them the heck out of the country.” Said Minnesota operations were “probably not appropriate.”

[\[1\] Al Jazeera: Michigan Senate debate takeaways \(Oct. 22, 2026\)](#)

[\[2\] Al Jazeera: First debate takeaways \(Oct. 9, 2026\)](#)

RECORD IN OFFICE

Yes H.R. 4437 (2005) — border-security bill expanding fencing and making unlawful presence a federal crime

No DREAM Act (H.R. 5281), 2010 — conditional legal status for some immigrants brought to the U.S. as children

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](#)

ABDUL EL-SAYED

Opposes “efforts to privatize public education through vouchers” and backs public K–12 funding. In his 2018 governor run, proposed phasing out for-profit charter schools while accepting nonprofit charters. No stated position on conscience protections found.

[1] [Abdul for Senate: Education](#)

[2] [Michigan Public: El-Sayed education plan \(2018\)](#)

MIKE ROGERS

As a U.S. Representative, voted in 2011 for the Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act, which funds private-school vouchers in Washington, D.C.

[1] [House Roll Call 204 \(2011\): SOAR Act](#)

RECORD IN OFFICE

Yes Scholarships for Opportunity and Results Act (H.R. 471), 2011 — reauthorized private-school vouchers in Washington, D.C.

Yes Protect Life Act (H.R. 358), 2011 — barred ACA abortion funding and expanded conscience protections for providers

CARE FOR CREATION

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

ABDUL EL-SAYED

Would codify the EPA’s greenhouse-gas Endangerment Finding into law, strengthen air-quality standards and NEPA, and make environmental justice a mandate for federal agencies.

[1] [Abdul for Senate: Environment and Natural Resources](#)

MIKE ROGERS

Argues renewable-energy mandates drove up Michigan energy costs; supports an “all of the above” approach prioritizing domestic production, and opposes renewables when “not good common sense.”

[1] [Bridge Michigan: Senate candidates clash over clean power future \(June 2026\)](#)

RECORD IN OFFICE

No American Clean Energy and Security Act (H.R. 2454), 2009 — cap-and-trade limits on greenhouse gas emissions

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