2026 CATHOLIC VOTER GUIDE · MISSOURI · LETTERS FROM LEO

U.S. House, District 4

Incumbent Mark Alford (R) seeks reelection. District lines redrawn for 2026 (map subject to legal dispute per Ballotpedia).



Mark Alford

REPUBLICAN · INCUMBENT

U.S. Representative since 2023; former Kansas City TV news anchor.



Jordan Herrera

DEMOCRAT · CHALLENGER

Attorney, former Missouri assistant attorney general and U.S. Air Force veteran.

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)

MARK ALFORD

No campaign statement found. See voting record below.

VOTING RECORD

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

No Ukraine Support Act (H.R. 2913), June 2026 — authorizes support for Ukraine

JORDAN HERRERA

Says he is "strongly opposed to escalating conflict with Iran" without lawful authorization; supports defensive cooperation with Israel "without delivery of munitions to Israel."

[1] Jordan J Herrera for Congress: Issues
[2] Ballotpedia: Jordan Herrera

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

MARK ALFORD

No campaign statement found. See voting record below.

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

JORDAN HERRERA

Says "AI must be built around workers, not used against them," citing the AFL-CIO's Workers First Initiative, and backs bargaining rights over AI-driven job changes.

[1] Jordan J Herrera for Congress: Issues
[2] Ballotpedia: Jordan Herrera

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

MARK ALFORD

No campaign statement found. See voting record below.

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

JORDAN HERRERA

Pledges to "protect and expand Medicaid and Medicare funding" to keep rural hospitals open; lists protecting SNAP and food security as a Farm Bill goal.

[1] Jordan J Herrera for Congress: Issues
[2] Ballotpedia: Jordan Herrera

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

MARK ALFORD

No campaign statement found. See voting record below.

VOTING RECORD

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

JORDAN HERRERA

Says he "strongly opposes" the SAVE Act, arguing its proof-of-citizenship requirement creates barriers for married women who changed names, veterans and others.

[1] Jordan J Herrera for Congress: Issues

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

MARK ALFORD

No campaign statement found. See voting record below.

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

JORDAN HERRERA

Pledges to "defend access to safe abortion and contraception" while expanding prenatal and family support, saying "that's how you prevent abortions: you support a person's life."

[1] Jordan J Herrera for Congress: Issues

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

MARK ALFORD

No public position found.

JORDAN HERRERA

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

MARK ALFORD

No campaign statement found. See voting record below.

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

JORDAN HERRERA

Says "DACA equals American" and backs permanent legal status for DACA recipients and "a clear, earned pathway to citizenship"; opposes mass deportation without due process.

[1] Jordan J Herrera for Congress: Issues
[2] Ballotpedia: Jordan Herrera

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

MARK ALFORD

No campaign statement found. See voting record below.

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

JORDAN HERRERA

Says "policies that strip funding from public schools do not create choice; they create collapse," and that government should not regulate "your religion in schools."

[1] Jordan J Herrera for Congress: Issues
[2] Ballotpedia: Jordan Herrera

CARE FOR CREATION

POPE LEO XIV *"We cannot love God, whom we cannot see, while despising his creatures."* AP, Oct. 1, 2025

MARK ALFORD

No campaign statement found. See voting record below.

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

JORDAN HERRERA

Supports investing in solar, wind and advanced energy, and positioning Missouri as a hub for small modular reactors and next-generation nuclear power.

[1] Jordan J Herrera for Congress: Issues

Full guide and every race in Missouri: standwithpopeleo.com/vote/missouri/ · **Take the Pope Leo voter pledge:** standwithpopeleo.com/vote/

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