2026 CATHOLIC VOTER GUIDE · NEW YORK · LETTERS FROM LEO

U.S. House, District 10

Open seat in practice: Brad Lander defeated incumbent Daniel Goldman (D) in the June 2026 Democratic primary.



Brad Lander

DEMOCRAT · OPEN SEAT

New York City Comptroller (2022–2026) and former City Council member; also on the Working Families line.

Jennifer Moore

REPUBLICAN · OPEN SEAT

Lifelong Brooklyn resident and Republican political operative; also on the Conservative line.

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)

BRAD LANDER

Calls the Iran war "reckless, illegal, and unjust" and backs a war powers resolution; says Israel's destruction of Gaza was a genocide and would oppose further military aid to Israel.

[1] Lander for Congress: Issues

JENNIFER MOORE

No public position found.

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

BRAD LANDER

Supports the PRO Act, federal gig-worker protections, a federal licensing framework for powerful AI models and a suspension of new data centers until regulations pass.

[1] Lander for Congress: Issues

JENNIFER MOORE

No public position found.

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

BRAD LANDER

Champions Medicare for All and a wealth tax on ultra-millionaires; would prioritize restoring ACA exchange subsidies and reversing Medicare and Medicaid cuts.

[1] Lander for Congress: Issues

JENNIFER MOORE

No public position found.

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

BRAD LANDER

Will co-sponsor the John Lewis Voting Rights Advancement Act and Freedom to Vote Act, and opposes new voter-registration requirements he calls "modern poll taxes."

[1] Lander for Congress: Issues

JENNIFER MOORE

No public position found.

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

BRAD LANDER

Pledges to "codify a right to an abortion" and repeal the Hyde Amendment, and to roll back TRAP laws regulating abortion providers.

[1] Lander for Congress: Issues

JENNIFER MOORE

No public position found.

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

BRAD LANDER

Supports the People's Justice Guarantee, which would end mandatory minimums and abolish the death penalty.

[1] Lander for Congress: Issues

JENNIFER MOORE

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

BRAD LANDER

Has called for abolishing ICE since 2018; was arrested in 2025 while escorting an asylum seeker at 26 Federal Plaza and seeks House oversight hearings on ICE.

[1] Lander for Congress: Issues

JENNIFER MOORE

No public position found.

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

BRAD LANDER

Pledges to oppose efforts "to privatize public education" and to cut public-school funding; no statement found on conscience protections or religious schools.

[1] Lander for Congress: Issues

JENNIFER MOORE

No public position found.

CARE FOR CREATION

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

BRAD LANDER

Supports a Green New Deal to "end our reliance on fossil fuels"; as comptroller directed city pension funds to divest from fossil fuels and invest in climate solutions.

[1] Lander for Congress: Issues

JENNIFER MOORE

No public position found.

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