2026 CATHOLIC VOTER GUIDE · OHIO · LETTERS FROM LEO

# U.S. House, District 5

Incumbent Bob Latta (R) seeks re-election. District lines redrawn for 2026.



## Bob Latta

**REPUBLICAN · INCUMBENT**

U.S. Representative since 2007; former Ohio state senator and Wood County commissioner.



## Brian Shaver

**DEMOCRAT · CHALLENGER**

Teacher.

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)

### BOB LATTA

*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

### BRIAN SHAVER

Says Congress should use its authority to keep the president's actions in check; cites fertilizer and fuel costs from the Iran conflict.

[1] Ballotpedia: Brian Shaver

## 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

### BOB LATTA

*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

### BRIAN SHAVER

Says "unions play a vital role in protecting the middle class."

[1] Ballotpedia: Brian Shaver

## 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

### BOB LATTA

*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

### BRIAN SHAVER

Calls health care "a fundamental right" and backs a "truly livable wage," without naming a minimum-wage figure.

[1] Ballotpedia: Brian Shaver

## 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

### BOB LATTA

*No campaign statement found. See voting record below.*

**VOTING RECORD**

**No** Objection to counting Arizona's 2020 electoral votes, Jan. 6, 2021 — a Yes vote supported the objection (failed, 121–303)

**No** Objection to counting Pennsylvania's 2020 electoral votes, Jan. 7, 2021 — a Yes vote supported the objection (failed, 138–282)

**No** For the People Act (H.R. 1), Mar. 2021 — automatic and same-day voter registration, expanded mail and early voting, campaign-finance and ethics rules

**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

### BRIAN SHAVER

On proof-of-citizenship proposals, says "Ohio already verifies citizenship at voter registration."

[1] Ballotpedia: Brian Shaver

## 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

### BOB LATTA

*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

### BRIAN SHAVER

Says health decisions belong to patients and doctors: "I have no desire to tell a woman what to do with her body."

[1] Ballotpedia: Brian Shaver

## 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

### BOB LATTA

*No public position found.*

### BRIAN SHAVER

*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

### BOB LATTA

*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

### BRIAN SHAVER

Calls for a fair, humane system focused on lawful contribution: "Everyone deserves to be treated with dignity by the government."

[1] Ballotpedia: Brian Shaver

## 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

### BOB LATTA

*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

### BRIAN SHAVER

Backs church–state separation, saying "Congress has no business establishing a national religion"; does not address school choice.

[1] Ballotpedia: Brian Shaver

## CARE FOR CREATION

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

### BOB LATTA

*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

### BRIAN SHAVER

*No public position found.*

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