2026 CATHOLIC VOTER GUIDE · OHIO · LETTERS FROM LEO

U.S. House, District 6

Incumbent Michael Rulli (R) seeks re-election. District lines redrawn for 2026.



Elizabeth Kirtley

DEMOCRAT · CHALLENGER

Democratic nominee for Ohio's 6th District.



Michael Rulli

REPUBLICAN · INCUMBENT

U.S. Representative since 2024; former Ohio state senator and Mahoning County businessman.

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)

ELIZABETH KIRTLEY

No public position found.

MICHAEL RULLI

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

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

ELIZABETH KIRTLEY

No public position found.

MICHAEL RULLI

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

Yes 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

ELIZABETH KIRTLEY

No public position found.

MICHAEL RULLI

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

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

ELIZABETH KIRTLEY

Supports "Fair & Safe Voting in All Elections," saying every American should have one vote, "no more and no less."

[1] Ballotpedia: Elizabeth Kirtley

MICHAEL RULLI

His 2024 campaign site listed election integrity among his priorities.

[1] Ballotpedia: Michael Rulli

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

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

ELIZABETH KIRTLEY

Supports codifying Roe, calling abortion "a choice that is between a woman, her doctor, and her God."

[1] Ballotpedia: Elizabeth Kirtley

MICHAEL RULLI

Opposed Ohio's 2023 Issue 1 abortion-rights amendment, which voters approved.

[1] Ballotpedia: Michael Rulli

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

ELIZABETH KIRTLEY

No public position found.

MICHAEL RULLI

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

ELIZABETH KIRTLEY

Her site includes an "Abolish ICE" section focused on due process, which she calls a right, not a privilege.

[1] Ballotpedia: Elizabeth Kirtley

MICHAEL RULLI

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

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

ELIZABETH KIRTLEY

Pledges to protect constitutional rights including religious freedom; does not address school choice.

[1] Ballotpedia: Elizabeth Kirtley

MICHAEL RULLI

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

CARE FOR CREATION

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

ELIZABETH KIRTLEY

No public position found.

MICHAEL RULLI

His 2024 campaign site listed "Energy Independence" among his priorities.

[1] Ballotpedia: Michael Rulli

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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