2026 CATHOLIC VOTER GUIDE · SOUTH CAROLINA · LETTERS FROM LEO

U.S. House, District 4

Incumbent William Timmons (R).



Courtney McClain

DEMOCRAT · CHALLENGER

Civil rights advocate and Howard University graduate who has lobbied South Carolina lawmakers; youngest candidate and first Black woman to run for the seat.



William Timmons

REPUBLICAN · INCUMBENT

U.S. Representative for South Carolina's 4th District.

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)

COURTNEY MCCLAIN

Would co-sponsor a War Powers Resolution to restore Congress's authority, recognize Palestinian statehood, and push for an arms embargo on Israel, a permanent ceasefire and humanitarian aid into Gaza.

[1] McClain for SC: Defending Those Who Defended Us
[2] McClain for SC: Supporting Common Sense Humanity

WILLIAM TIMMONS

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

COURTNEY MCCLAIN

Calls for a moratorium on new AI data centers, a ban on dynamic pricing for groceries and rent, fair scheduling laws for hourly workers and industry-wide wage and benefit floors.

[1] McClain for SC: Managing Our Rapid Growth
[2] McClain for SC: Fair Wages

WILLIAM TIMMONS

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

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

COURTNEY MCCLAIN

Supports fully funding the ACA, Medicare for All, expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit, universal free school meals and raising the federal minimum wage, indexed to living costs.

[1] McClain for SC: Our Health, Our Fight
[2] McClain for SC: Fair Wages
[3] McClain for SC: Cost of Living

WILLIAM TIMMONS

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

COURTNEY MCCLAIN

Supports automatic voter registration, protecting mail-in voting, banning voter purges for inactivity, 72-hour notice of polling-place changes and ending partisan gerrymandering.

[1] McClain for SC: Protecting the Power of Every Vote

WILLIAM TIMMONS

No campaign statement found. See voting record below.

VOTING RECORD

Yes Objection to counting Arizona's 2020 electoral votes, Jan. 6, 2021 — a Yes vote supported the objection (failed, 121–303)

Yes 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

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

COURTNEY MCCLAIN

Pledges to "oppose the dangerous restrictions placed on women's right to choose" by ensuring access to reproductive care nationwide, and to expand access to contraceptives.

[1] McClain for SC: Our Health, Our Fight

WILLIAM TIMMONS

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

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

COURTNEY MCCLAIN

No public position found.

WILLIAM TIMMONS

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

COURTNEY MCCLAIN

Would "end detention and deportation as a default," divest from private prison contracts, fund counsel for all in immigration court and repeal travel bans on 38 countries.

[1] McClain for SC: Supporting Common Sense Humanity

WILLIAM TIMMONS

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

COURTNEY MCCLAIN

No public position found.

WILLIAM TIMMONS

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

COURTNEY MCCLAIN

Proposes investment in public transit, grid upgrades and flood resilience, and would require data centers to pay fully for their environmental impact and grid costs.

[1] McClain for SC: Managing Our Rapid Growth

WILLIAM TIMMONS

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

Full guide and every race in South Carolina: standwithpopeleo.com/vote/south-carolina/ · **Take the Pope Leo voter pledge:** standwithpopeleo.com/vote/

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