2026 CATHOLIC VOTER GUIDE · UTAH · LETTERS FROM LEO

U.S. House, District 4

Incumbent Mike Kennedy (R), who previously represented the 3rd District. District lines redrawn for 2026 after a court-ordered map.



Mike Kennedy

REPUBLICAN · INCUMBENT

U.S. Representative since 2025; physician and former Utah state senator.



Jonny Larsen

DEMOCRAT · CHALLENGER

Marine Corps veteran (2000–2004) who deployed to Iraq; information technology professional.

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)

MIKE KENNEDY

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

JONNY LARSEN

Says "gas prices spike every time politicians start a conflict with no exit plan"; does not address Ukraine, Israel or Iran specifically.

[1] Jonny Larsen for Congress: The Commitment

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

MIKE KENNEDY

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

JONNY LARSEN

Says "the right to organize is not a relic. It is how working people hold power," and pledges to always defend it; no stated AI position.

[1] Jonny Larsen for Congress: The Commitment

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

MIKE KENNEDY

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

JONNY LARSEN

Notes rural Utah hospitals face Medicaid funding losses and pledges to "hold insurance companies accountable, expand rural access, bring prescription drug costs under control."

[1] Jonny Larsen for Congress: The Commitment

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

MIKE KENNEDY

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

JONNY LARSEN

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

MIKE KENNEDY

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

JONNY LARSEN

Says women deserve "full control over their own healthcare decisions," calling it a matter "between a woman and her doctor. Not a politician and a lobbyist."

[1] Jonny Larsen for Congress: The Commitment

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

MIKE KENNEDY

No public position found.

JONNY LARSEN

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

MIKE KENNEDY

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

JONNY LARSEN

Calls the system "broken," says "we do not need masked agents terrorizing communities," and seeks a fair, enforceable system that holds corporations accountable for exploiting visa programs.

[1] Jonny Larsen for Congress: The Commitment

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

MIKE KENNEDY

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

JONNY LARSEN

Opposes diverting "public school funding to private voucher programs with zero accountability" and pledges to protect public school funding.

[1] Jonny Larsen for Congress: The Commitment

CARE FOR CREATION

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

MIKE KENNEDY

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

JONNY LARSEN

Says "our public lands are not for sale" and calls them the economic backbone of rural counties; lists water policy and the Great Salt Lake among his priorities.

[1] Jonny Larsen for Congress: The Commitment
[2] Ballotpedia: Jonny Larsen

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

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