2026 CATHOLIC VOTER GUIDE · WYOMING · LETTERS FROM LEO

U.S. Senate

Open seat (Sen. Cynthia Lummis not running). Rated Solid Republican by Cook Political Report (Oct 2026).



James Byrd

DEMOCRAT · OPEN SEAT

Geophysicist and IT project manager; former Wyoming House minority caucus leader (served 2009–2019).



Harriet Hageman

REPUBLICAN · OPEN SEAT

U.S. Representative for Wyoming's at-large district since 2023; water and natural-resources attorney.

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)

JAMES BYRD

Opposes "wasteful foreign wars"; tied the 2026 U.S. strikes on Tehran to rising gas prices.

[1] Byrd campaign: Issues
[2] OnTheIssues: James W. Byrd

HARRIET HAGEMAN

Backed the 2026 U.S. strikes on Iran as a "reckoning" for Tehran's government; asked about targeting Iranian infrastructure, said, "I support what the President is doing."

[1] Rep. Hageman statement on Iran (Mar. 2, 2026)
[2] OnTheIssues: Hageman on war and peace

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

JAMES BYRD

Says he "won't support sweetheart tax deals" for data centers that strain the grid and water supplies; backs community colleges and workforce education.

[1] Byrd campaign: Issues
[2] Ballotpedia: James Byrd

HARRIET HAGEMAN

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

JAMES BYRD

Would protect rural hospitals and critical-access designations, cap prescription-drug costs and make telehealth reimbursement permanent; says no one should "go bankrupt because they got sick."

[1] WyoFile election guide: James Byrd
[2] Byrd campaign: Issues

HARRIET HAGEMAN

Cites securing more than $205 million for Wyoming through the Rural Health Transformation Program; says rural care should be considered "in any nationwide reform."

[1] WyoFile election guide: Harriet Hageman

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

JAMES BYRD

Has said the SAVE Act would make it harder for some people to vote.

[1] OnTheIssues: James W. Byrd

HARRIET HAGEMAN

Called the 2020 presidential election "rigged" during her 2022 campaign; co-sponsored the SAVE Act requiring proof of citizenship to register to vote.

[1] Cowboy State Daily: Hageman calls 2020 election "rigged" (2022)
[2] Rep. Hageman on the SAVE Act (July 2024)

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

JAMES BYRD

Has said personal health-care decisions should remain private (2026).

[1] OnTheIssues: James W. Byrd

HARRIET HAGEMAN

Has said abortion "will one day be remembered as a grave stain on American history" (2022) and opposes exceptions to abortion bans, per OnTheIssues.

[1] Ballotpedia: Harriet Hageman
[2] OnTheIssues: Harriet Hageman

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

JAMES BYRD

No public position found.

HARRIET HAGEMAN

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

JAMES BYRD

Says "our immigration system is broken"; criticizes family separations and calls for legal visa pathways for agriculture, ranching and hospitality and full funding for immigration courts.

[1] WyoFile election guide: James Byrd

HARRIET HAGEMAN

Says "a country without borders is no country at all"; backs legal immigration and the administration's campaign to deport "criminal illegal immigrants first."

[1] WyoFile election guide: Harriet Hageman

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

JAMES BYRD

Has criticized state support for homeschooling and charter schools (2026), per OnTheIssues.

[1] OnTheIssues: James W. Byrd

HARRIET HAGEMAN

Has said government is failing to protect religious freedom (2022).

[1] OnTheIssues: Harriet Hageman

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

JAMES BYRD

Supports domestic energy production alongside advanced nuclear and deep geologic carbon storage, saying "we can innovate without abandoning the people who power America."

[1] Ballotpedia: James Byrd
[2] Byrd campaign: Issues

HARRIET HAGEMAN

Sees Wyoming's energy and mineral resources as a major jobs opportunity; supports permitting reform, fracking and "multiple use and sustained yield" management of federal land.

[1] WyoFile election guide: Harriet Hageman
[2] OnTheIssues: Harriet Hageman

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 Wyoming: standwithpopeleo.com/vote/wyoming/ · **Take the Pope Leo voter pledge:** standwithpopeleo.com/vote/

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