



CENTRAL FLORIDA
FREETHOUGHT
COMMUNITY

2020 General Election Non-Partisan Voter Education Guide Florida House & Senate

The Central Florida Freethought Community (CFFC) Board of Directors sent a questionnaire to each candidate running for Florida House and Senate in the Central Florida counties of Orange, Seminole, Osceola, Lake, Volusia, and Brevard. The questions cover a broad range of issues.

The questionnaire was sent to a total of 62 candidates in 21 General Election contests for Florida House and 6 for Florida Senate that were listed on the [Florida Department of State website](#). Candidates were reached using their campaign email, campaign website contact form, official email, or Facebook messenger. Some candidates could not be reached since no method of communication was publicly available. Some candidates did not respond to the survey.

You can see the survey questions by [clicking here](#). If you have feedback or questions about the process, email us at info@cflfreethought.org.

To find candidates in your area, go to the pages for your county and district. Districts in more than one county can be found on each county page.

The CFFC is a 501(c)(3) educational non-profit organization focusing on the separation between religion and government, educating the public on the value of secularism, and building a thriving Humanist community in the Central Florida area. Founded in 2012, the CFFC assists its community members and the public in resolving Establishment Clause and other violations and advocates for the values we have in common with all people.

Orange County

House Districts [30](#) [31](#) [44](#) [47](#) [48](#) [49](#) [50](#) | Senate Districts [11](#) [13](#) [15](#)

Click on the House or Senate district number above for a district map

Click on the candidate name below to visit the URL (when provided by the respondent)

Florida House District 49	Robert Prater Republican	Carlos Guillermo Smith * Democrat
1. Do you favor the placement for any reason of religious symbols or displays in public places?	DNP	No
2. Do you believe it is solely a woman’s right to choose to have an abortion for any reason?	DNP	Always
3. Do you support statewide human rights protections for the LGBTQIA+ community?	DNP	Yes
4. Do you support allowing public school employees to pray with students during school or at school-sanctioned activities?	DNP	No
5. Do you support teaching the Bible in public schools other than in a course on comparative religions?	DNP	No
6. Do you support giving religious organizations government funding to support inherently religious activities?	DNP	No
7. Do you support requiring houses of worship to file the same IRS report forms as other 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations do?	DNP	Yes
8. Do you have any comments you would like to share regarding the above questions or your position on religious freedom?	Candidate Prater DNP	Candidate Smith [No response]

Florida House District 30	Bob Cortes Republican	Joy Goff-Marcil * Democrat
Candidates did not participate	DNP	DNP

Florida House District 31	Crissy Stile Democrat	Keith Truenow Republican
Candidates did not participate	DNP	DNP

Florida House District 44	Bruno Portigliatti Republican	Geraldine F. Thompson * Democrat
Candidates did not participate	DNP	DNP

Florida House District 47	Anna V. Eskamani * Democrat	Jeremy Sisson Republican
Candidates did not participate	DNP	DNP

Florida House District 48	Jesus Martinez Republican	Daisy Morales Democrat
Candidates did not participate	DNP	DNP

Key: * = Incumbent; DNP = Did not participate; NCI = No contact information available

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Florida House District 50	Rene “Coach P” Plasencia * Republican	Nina Yoakum Democrat
Candidates did not participate	DNP	DNP

Florida Senate District 11	Joshua Eli Adams Republican	Randolph Bracy * Democrat
Candidates did not participate	DNP	DNP

Florida Senate District 13	Josh Anderson Republican	Linda Stewart * Democrat
Candidates did not participate	DNP	DNP

Florida Senate District 15	Mike James No Party Affiliation	Louis T. Minnis Jr. Republican	Victor M Torres Jr. * Democrat
Candidates did not participate	DNP	DNP	DNP

2020 Election Do Not Use

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Seminole County

House Districts 28 29 30 | Senate District 9

Click on the House or Senate district number above for a district map

Click on the candidate name below to visit the URL (when provided by the respondent)

Florida House District 28	Pasha Baker Democrat	Michael A. Riccio No Party Affiliation	David Smith * Republican
1. Do you favor the placement for any reason of religious symbols or displays in public places?	DNP	Yes	DNP
2. Do you believe it is solely a woman's right to choose to have an abortion for any reason?	DNP	Sometimes	DNP
3. Do you support statewide human rights protections for the LGBTQIA+ community?	DNP	Yes	DNP
4. Do you support allowing public school employees to pray with students during school or at school-sanctioned activities?	DNP	Yes	DNP
5. Do you support teaching the Bible in public schools other than in a course on comparative religions?	DNP	No	DNP
6. Do you support giving religious organizations government funding to support inherently religious activities?	DNP	No	DNP
7. Do you support requiring houses of worship to file the same IRS report forms as other 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations do?	DNP	No	DNP
8. Do you have any comments you would like to share regarding the above questions or your position on religious freedom?	Candidate Baker DNP	Candidate Riccio writes: "The freedom of religion is also the freedom of not having a religion. The United States doesn't not have a single religion, you are free to choose your religion and religious beliefs."	Candidate Smith DNP

Florida House District 29	Tracey Kagan Democrat	Scott Plakon * Republican	Juan Rodriguez No Party Affiliation
1. Do you favor the placement for any reason of religious symbols or displays in public places?	No	DNP	DNP
2. Do you believe it is solely a woman's right to choose to have an abortion for any reason?	Always	DNP	DNP
3. Do you support statewide human rights protections for the LGBTQIA+ community?	Yes	DNP	DNP
4. Do you support allowing public school employees to pray with students during school or at school-sanctioned activities?	No	DNP	DNP
5. Do you support teaching the Bible in public schools other than in a course on comparative religions?	No	DNP	DNP

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6. Do you support giving religious organizations government funding to support inherently religious activities?	No	DNP	DNP
7. Do you support requiring houses of worship to file the same IRS report forms other 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations do?	Yes	DNP	DNP
8. Do you have any comments you would like to share regarding the above questions or your position on religious freedom?	Candidate Kagan writes: "This country has been founded on religious freedom, and the separation of Church and State. While I'm a person of faith myself, I believe it is so important to maintain independence and free thought in a society."		Candidate Plakon DNP
			Candidate Rodriguez DNP

Florida House District 30	Bob Cortes Republican	Joy Goff-Marcil * Democrat
Candidates did not participate	DNP	DNP

Florida Senate District 9	Jason Brodeur * Republican	Jestine Iannotti No Party Affiliation	Patricia Sigman Democrat
Candidates did not participate	DNP	DNP	DNP

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Osceola County

House Districts **39 42** | Senate District **15**

Click on the House or Senate district number above for a district map

Click on the candidate name below to visit the URL (when provided by the respondent)

Florida House District 42	Barbara Ann Cady Democrat	Fred Hawkins Republican	Leroy Sanchez No Party Affiliation
1. Do you favor the placement for any reason of religious symbols or displays in public places?	No	DNP	NCI
2. Do you believe it is solely a woman’s right to choose to have an abortion for any reason?	Always	DNP	NCI
3. Do you support statewide human rights protections for the LGBTQIA+ community?	Yes	DNP	NCI
4. Do you support allowing public school employees to pray with students during school or at school-sanctioned activities?	No	DNP	NCI
5. Do you support teaching the Bible in public schools other than in a course on comparative religions?	No	DNP	NCI
6. Do you support giving religious organizations government funding to support inherently religious activities?	No	DNP	NCI
7. Do you support requiring houses of worship to file the same IRS report forms as other 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations do?	Yes	DNP	NCI
8. Do you have any comments you would like to share regarding the above questions or your position on religious freedom?	Candidate Cady writes: “I believe in the separation of church and state.”	Candidate Hawkins DNP	Candidate Sanchez NCI

Florida House District 39	Chris Cause Democrat	Josie Tomkow * Republican
Candidates did not participate	DNP	DNP

Florida Senate District 15	Mike James No Party Affiliation	Louis T. Minnis Jr. Republican	Victor M Torres Jr. * Democrat
Candidates did not participate	DNP	DNP	DNP

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Lake County

House Districts **31 32 33** | Senate District (no elections)

Click on the House or Senate district number above for a district map

Click on the candidate name below to visit the URL (when provided by the respondent)

Florida House District 31	Crissy Stile Democrat	Keith Truenow Republican
Candidates did not participate	DNP	DNP
Florida House District 32	Stephanie L. Dukes Democrat	Anthony Sabatini * Republican
Candidates did not participate	DNP	DNP
Florida House District 33	Brett T. Hage * Republican	Mamie "Dee" Melvin Democrat
Candidates did not participate	DNP	DNP

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Volusia County

House Districts 24 25 26 27 | Senate Districts 7 9

Click on the House or Senate district number above for a district map

Click on the candidate name below to visit the URL (when provided by the respondent)

Florida House District 25		Joseph "Joe" Hannoush Libertarian	Tom Leek * Republican	Sarah Zutter Democrat
1. Do you favor the placement for any reason of religious symbols or displays in public places?	No	DNP	No	
2. Do you believe it is solely a woman's right to choose to have an abortion for any reason?	Mostly	DNP	Always	
3. Do you support statewide human rights protections for the LGBTQIA+ community?	Yes	DNP	Yes	
4. Do you support allowing public school employees to pray with students during school or at school-sanctioned activities?	Yes	DNP	[No response]	
5. Do you support teaching the Bible in public schools other than in a course on comparative religions?	No	DNP	No	
6. Do you support giving religious organizations government funding to support inherently religious activities?	No	DNP	No	
7. Do you support requiring houses of worship to file the same IRS report forms as other 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations do?	Yes	DNP	Yes	
8. Do you have any comments you would like to share regarding the above questions or your position on religious freedom?	Candidate Hannoush writes: "Generally I support any individuals right to worship as they please so long as it does not impact another person in any way. Government schools should not be pushing any specific religion. They may practice their own as they wish."		Candidate Leek DNP	Candidate Zutter [No response]

Florida House District 27		Webster Barnaby Republican	Delorez Guzman Democrat
1. Do you favor the placement for any reason of religious symbols or displays in public places?	DNP	No	
2. Do you believe it is solely a woman's right to choose to have an abortion for any reason?	DNP	Always	
3. Do you support statewide human rights protections for the LGBTQIA+ community?	DNP	Yes	
4. Do you support allowing public school employees to pray with students during school or at school-sanctioned activities?	DNP	No	
5. Do you support teaching the Bible in public schools other than in a course on comparative religions?	DNP	No	
6. Do you support giving religious organizations government funding to support inherently religious activities?	DNP	No	

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7. Do you support requiring houses of worship to file the same IRS report forms as other 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations do?	DNP	Yes
8. Do you have any comments you would like to share regarding the above questions or your position on religious freedom?	Candidate Barnaby DNP	Candidate Guzman writes: "I believe in the separation of church and state. Even though I am a religious person myself, I believe that tax money should not go to religious studies or observances. People are free to practice their religion in their own time, but a freedom of religion means that nobody should have religion forced onto them if they are not comfortable with it."

Florida Senate District 7	Richard Dembinsky Write-In	Heather Hunter Democrat	Travis J. Hutson * Republican
1. Do you favor the placement for any reason of religious symbols or displays in public places?	DNP	No	DNP
2. Do you believe it is solely a woman's right to choose to have an abortion for any reason?	DNP	Always	DNP
3. Do you support statewide human rights protections for the LGBTQIA+ community?	DNP	Yes	DNP
4. Do you support allowing public school employees to pray with students during school or at school-sanctioned activities?	DNP	No	DNP
5. Do you support teaching the Bible in public schools other than in a course on comparative religions?	DNP	No	DNP
6. Do you support giving religious organizations government funding to support inherently religious activities?	DNP	No	DNP
7. Do you support requiring houses of worship to file the same IRS report forms as other 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations do?	DNP	Yes	DNP
8. Do you have any comments you would like to share regarding the above questions or your position on religious freedom?	Candidate Dembinsky DNP	Candidate Hunter writes: "In reference to number 4, I believe students/ employees should be able to pray for/with each other ONLY if it is not forcing other students to participate who do not wish to."	Candidate Hutson DNP

Florida House District 24	Adam Morley Democrat	Paul Renner * Republican
Candidates did not participate	DNP	DNP

Florida House District 26	Elizabeth Fetterhoff * Republican	Patrick Henry Democrat
Candidates did not participate	DNP	DNP

Florida Senate District 9	Jason Brodeur * Republican	Jestine Iannotti No Party Affiliation	Patricia Sigman Democrat
Candidates did not participate	DNP	NCI	DNP

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Brevard County

House Districts 50 51 52 53 | Senate District 17

Click on the House or Senate district number above for a district map

Click on the candidate name below to visit the URL (when provided by the respondent)

Florida House District 53		Randy Fine * Republican	Phil Moore Democrat	Thomas Patrick Unger Write-In
1. Do you favor the placement for any reason of religious symbols or displays in public places?		DNP	No	NCI
2. Do you believe it is solely a woman's right to choose to have an abortion for any reason?		DNP	Always	NCI
3. Do you support statewide human rights protections for the LGBTQIA+ community?		DNP	Yes	NCI
4. Do you support allowing public school employees to pray with students during school or at school-sanctioned activities?		DNP	No	NCI
5. Do you support teaching the Bible in public schools other than in a course on comparative religions?		DNP	No	NCI
6. Do you support giving religious organizations government funding to support inherently religious activities?		DNP	No	NCI
7. Do you support requiring houses of worship to file the same IRS report forms as other 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations?		DNP	Yes	NCI
8. Do you have any comments you would like to share regarding the above questions or your position on religious freedom?	Candidate Fine DNP	Candidate Moore writes: "I have the endorsement of Planned Parenthood & Democrat LGBT+ caucus of FL & others on my website."		Candidate Unger NCI

Florida House District 50		Rene "Coach P" Plasencia * Republican	Nina Yoakum Democrat
Candidates did not participate		DNP	DNP

Florida House District 51		Joan Marie Majid Democrat	Tyler Sirois * Republican
Candidates did not participate		DNP	DNP

Florida House District 52		Thad Altman * Republican	Lloyd Dabbs Democrat
Candidates did not participate		DNP	DNP

Florida Senate District 17		Scot Fretwell Democrat	Debbie Mayfield * Republican	Phillip Snyder No Party Affiliation
Candidates did not participate		DNP	DNP	DNP

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