

Candidates for Attorney General, Auditor General, Treasurer State Senate and State House of Representatives

State Attorney General Candidates

(Bold denotes candidates who responded to survey)
Joshua D. Shapiro (D), John C. Rafferty, Jr. (R)

State Auditor General Candidates

(Bold denotes candidates who responded to survey)
Eugene A. DePasquale (D)
John A. Brown (R)

State Treasurer Candidates

(Bold denotes candidates who responded to survey)
Joseph M. Torsella (D)
Otto W. Voit, III (R)

State Senate Candidates

(Bold denotes candidates who responded to survey)
Greg Paulson (D-13), **Scott Martin (R-13)**, Rob Teplitz (D-15),
John DiSanto (R-15), John Boshia (D-31), Mike Regan (R-31),
Kenneth Gehosky (I-31)

State House of Representatives Candidates

(Bold denotes candidates who responded to survey)
Nancy Dean (D-13), John Lawrence (R-13), Nick Selch (D-41),
Brett Miller (R-41), **Steve Elliott (D-43)**, **Keith Greiner (R-43)**, Rick
Rogers (D-81), Rich Irvin (R-81), Jim Massey (D-87), Greg Rothman
(D-87), Christopher Cowan (R-88), Sheryl Delozier (R-88), Christine
Tolbert (D-89), Rob Kauffman (R-89), Denise Weldon-Siviy (D-91),
Dan Moul (R-91), **Dawn Wetzel Keefer (R-92)**, **Kate McGraw
(I-92)**, Kevin Schreiber (D-95), Joel Sears (R-95), Mike Sturla (D-96),
Robert Bigley (R-96), **Charlie Klein (D-97)**, Steve Mentzer (R-97),
Duane Groff (D-99), David Zimmerman (R-99), Dale Hamby (D-100),
Bryan Cutler (R-100), **Lorraine Scudder (D-101)**, **Frank Ryan
(R-101)**, Jake Long (D-102), **Russ Diamond (R-102)**, Jody Rebarchak
(D-104), Susan Helm (R-104), **Michael Krankowski (D-107)**,
Kurt Masser (R-107), **John Deppen (D-108)**, Lynda Schlegel Culver
(R-108), Edward Sanders (D-109), **David Millard (R-109)**, Denise
Bedio (I-109), **Kate Klunk (R-169)**, **Robert Marcoccio (NA-169)**,
Melody Fleck (D-171), Kerry Benninghoff (R-171),
Denise Van Essen (D-193), **Will Tallman (R-193)**, Jill Bartoli (D-199),
Stephen Bloom (R-199)

Question 1.

What is your position on increased funding for Educational Improvement Tax Credits (EITC) and Opportunity Scholarship Tax Credits (OSTC) where the state budget includes an increase in public school funding?

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Shapiro (D): Support.

Rafferty (R): Support. This is a terrific program and I have always supported.

AUDITOR GENERAL

Brown (R): Support. I support this program because I believe that families deserve this support to pursue a religious education.

STATE TREASURER

Voit (R): Support. I believe that families deserve this support so they can take advantage of opportunities presented by religious schools.

STATE SENATE

Martin (R-13): Support. Having attended and graduated from Catholic schools (St. Anne's Elementary and Lancaster Catholic High School), this program is very important to me as well as fighting for school choice in PA.

DiSanto (R-15): Support.

Gehosky (I-31): Support. Tax credits such as those described above can supplement school funding but should not be seen as a substitute for properly funding public schools.

STATE HOUSE

Miller (R-41): Support. I voted to increase the EITC and OSTC tax credits.

Elliott (D-43): Support. With state support barely covering these programs, these tax incentives can provide additional funds to provide innovative and enriching programs for students with ever increasing needs. It's a win-win proposition.

Greiner (R-43): Support. I have strongly supported this while working as a certified public accountant, and as a legislator.

Wetzel Keefer (R-92): Support. I believe PA already spends enough on education. I support choice including EITC and OSTC.

McGraw (I-92): Oppose. The preservation of our public school system, and restoration of funding levels before prior budget cuts, are priorities for my campaign. A strong public school system that is properly funded and equitable for all is the bedrock to strong communities, and a promise made to constituents by the Pennsylvania Constitution.

Klein (D-97): I support! My children attend Catholic school at St. Anne's in Lancaster. My wife and I sacrifice to pay tuition even though we live in Manheim Township which is known for providing an excellent public education. I do not truly consider it a sacrifice but an investment in my child. My parents invested in me and my sisters so it is imperative to me to invest in my children. On the days that I am off, I try to take my children to school and stay for the morning prayer service, Pledge of Allegiance and patriotic song. That is how they start their school day and on days I am off I am happy and excited to start the day off the same way! For those Catholics that cannot afford Catholic school and for those people that live in an area in which the public school system does not provide "a thorough and efficient education" as is promised in Pennsylvania's state constitution, I believe the EITC and OSTC are essential tools to provide access to not only a Catholic education, but a thorough and efficient education as promised by our state constitution.

Scudder (D-101): Support. If it benefits lower middle income children with a better education, I'll support it.

Ryan (R-101): Support. I am in favor of school choice. The last part of the question concerns me regarding public school funding.

Diamond (R-102): Support.

Krankowski (D-107): Support. I will always support increased funding for education under any circumstances.

Masser (R-107): Support.

Deppen (D-108): My daughter attends a nonpublic Christian school. I am aware that her education in such a setting is a blessing unavailable to many Pennsylvanians who are economically disadvantaged. We need to find ways to both strengthen our public schools while increasing opportunities for people to explore nonpublic educational settings.

Millard (R-109): Support.

Klunk (R-169): Support.

Marcoccio (NA-169): Oppose. I have been proposing to end the school tax and place school funding on a royalty based funding system. This system I developed 8 years ago is stable and cost effective and will not jeopardize programs, teacher jobs or close schools.

Tallman (R-193): Support.

Bloom (R-199): Support. I strongly support the EITC and OSTC programs. I have been a consistent supporter and advocate for these important initiatives in the state legislature.

Question 2.

Which statement reflects your position most accurately?

- I support legalized abortion.
- I oppose legalized abortion in all circumstances.
- I oppose legalized abortion, except when the life of the mother is in danger or the pregnancy is a result of rape or incest.

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Shapiro (D): a.

Rafferty (R): c.

AUDITOR GENERAL

Brown (R): c.

STATE TREASURER

Voit (R): c.

STATE SENATE

Martin (R-13): c.

DiSanto (R-15): c.

Gehosky (I-31): a. I support legalized abortion in limited circumstances. Protecting legal abortions is the surest way to one day live in a world where no abortions are performed. Efforts should be directed at improving access to healthcare and education rather than persecuting women.

STATE HOUSE

Miller (R-41): c. I oppose legalized abortion, except when the life of the mother is in danger.

Elliott (D-43): a. I personally accept the Church's position on abortion, but as a representative for all, I cannot insert my personal beliefs into a discussion that should remain between a woman and her spouse or a woman and her doctor.

Greiner (R-43): c.

Wetzel Keefer (R-92): c.

McGraw (I-92): a. I support policies that reduce abortion rates. Increased access to contraception results in fewer abortions. Safe, legal abortion protects the health of women. Legislators and hospital administrators are not qualified to decide whether a pregnant woman's life is at risk. That determination needs to reside privately between doctor and patient.

Klein (D-97): Being Catholic and a Knight of Columbus I am pro-life. I want to reduce abortions by preventing unwanted pregnancy. Abstinence is not realistic. I would provide better access to contraception and family planning and increased funding for preventing teen pregnancy. We need to provide pre/post-natal and pediatric care, child care assistance, domestic violence prevention programs, and improved adoption services. These are safe, legal and fair options for women. The only choice for me is protecting all life from conception to death. All life is precious. At the end of the day, I support a woman's right to choose her path.

Scudder (D-101): a. This matter is a decision between a woman and her physician. Government and religion should have no say in this.

Ryan (R-101): b. Life begins at conception and must be protected. I am a Knight of Malta.

Diamond (R-102): b.

Krankowski (D-107): c. Like former Gov. Casey, I am a pro-life Christian Democrat.

Masser (R-107): c.

Deppen (D-108): Because of the ongoing dangers of MST (Military Sexual Trauma), human sex trafficking, and child molestation, I support legalized access to abortion services. I reject the oversimplification and labeling that accompanies virtually every discussion of this issue. Pro-birth does not mean pro-life, and pro-choice does not mean pro-death.

Millard (R-109): c.

Klunk (R-169): c.

Marcoccio (NA-169): c. Human nature can't be legislated. Moral judgment must be taught by the parents, the church and schools.

Tallman (R-193): c.

Bloom (R-199): c. I oppose legalized abortion, except when the life of the mother is in danger. I am strongly pro-life. I am humbled to once again be the only candidate endorsed by the Pennsylvania Pro-Life Federation in my race for re-election.

Question 3.

What is your position on expanding the Children's Health Insurance Program (CHIP) to provide health insurance to children in Pennsylvania who are undocumented immigrants?

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Shapiro (D): Support.

Rafferty (R): Oppose. I oppose the use of taxpayer dollars, but this is where charities need to step in.

AUDITOR GENERAL

Brown (R): Oppose. I oppose the use of taxpayer dollars, but I believe that this is an opportunity for private charities to step in to offer support.

STATE TREASURER

Voit (R): Oppose. I oppose the use of taxpayer dollars for undocumented immigrants, but I believe that this is an opportunity for private charities to step in to offer support.

STATE SENATE

Martin (R-13): I am a lifelong Catholic and believe deeply in the principle of helping those in need, especially our children, which is why I believe in the goal of this initiative. As Senator, however, I would be obligated to look at this in light of the economic limitations of the state, as well as how the people of the 13th Senate District would want me to vote. There are also concerns about providing taxpayer-funded benefits to non-citizens and what implications that may have for other services.

DiSanto (R-15): Oppose. I do not support requiring Pennsylvania residents to pay for the basic health care of any undocumented immigrants.

Gehosky (I-31): Support. No civil society can long endure which does not care for its children.

STATE HOUSE

Miller (R-41): Since financial resources are being stretched in order to adequately cover the children of Pennsylvanians who are here legally, efforts must first be directed toward ensuring that Pennsylvania's legal citizens are covered prior to giving this coverage to those who are here illegally.

Elliott (D-43): Support. We have an obligation to care for those who cannot care for themselves and this includes children, all children, regardless of the status of their parents.

Greiner (R-43): The commonwealth has many financial challenges, yet I am compassionate to the needs of children. Many of my residents have concerns and I would have to review at a wholistic level.

Wetzel Keefer (R-92): Oppose. I support assisting the child and their parents in returning to their native land to legally get services they need.

McGraw (I-92): Support. It is moral and right to ensure all children who reside in Pennsylvania have trouble-free and ready access to health-

care, regardless of their immigration status or status of their parents. I believe CHIP is essential and should receive priority funding through proper and secured channels without raising taxes.

Klein (D-97): Support. Pennsylvania's children deserve to lead healthy, successful lives. Access to healthcare is essential. Simply put, having insurance improves health outcomes of children. Insurance also provides access to a primary care physician. Families with coverage are less likely to use costly emergency room services for common childhood ailments. Good healthcare also may provide a pathway to academic success as well.

Scudder (D-101): Support. Every child deserves to have the best medical care available to them.

Ryan (R-101): Oppose. I believe my faith and Church should provide this safety net.

Diamond (R-102): Oppose. Taxpayer dollars should not be spent on illegals.

Krankowski (D-107): Support. Children are children. I don't care if they are documented or undocumented, it's our duty as Christians to provide health insurance to all children!!!

Masser (R-107): Oppose.

Deppen (D-108): My own child benefitted from CHIP, and I was grateful that my wife and I were able to access the program. As Christians, our duty is to share our abundance, especially with our most vulnerable neighbors. Jesus asked no one for their papers before He healed or fed them.

Millard (R-109): Support.

Klunk (R-169): I believe that all children should be covered by health insurance. However, I do have concerns regarding the cost to provide free health insurance to undocumented immigrants when we as a state and a nation are struggling to afford the costs to provide free health insurance to American children.

Marcoccio (NA-169): Oppose. We have a 19 trillion dollar deficit and cannot include a mandate increase for illegal immigrants. If there is an emergency situation the hospitals must give aid but to sustain illegals with taxpayers' money is unacceptable.

Tallman (R-193): Undocumented persons are here illegally. Therefore except for EMS they should not receive these benefits.

Bloom (R-199): Oppose. While I am fully supportive of charitable efforts and ministries of mercy to serve the medical needs of children of undocumented immigrants, I do not believe we should force our already over-extended taxpayers to bear this burden.

Question 4.

What is your position on amending Pennsylvania's anti-discrimination laws for housing, employment and public accommodation to include sexual orientation?

- They should include "sexual orientation" and "gender identity or expression" as protected classes, no exceptions.
- They should contain specific provisions to protect the religious liberties of religious institutions and the rights of conscience of business owners.
- No change is necessary.

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Shapiro (D): a.

Rafferty (R): c. If there is to be a law, this provision should definitely be included.

AUDITOR GENERAL

Brown (R): c. If there is to be a law, this provision should definitely be included.

STATE TREASURER

Voit (R): c. If there is to be a law, this provision should definitely be included.

STATE SENATE

Martin (R-13): b.

DiSanto (R-15): b. I oppose discrimination and believe we need to have religious protections for people of faith and conscience.

Gehosky (I-31): b. Religious institutions have legitimate and reasonable expectations of exceptions to some provisions of public accommodation.

STATE HOUSE

Miller (R-41): b.

Elliott (D-43): a. While churches may be exempted based on church doctrine, in the business and public sector, religious liberty cannot be a shield for discrimination, bigotry and hate.

Greiner (R-43): c.

Wetzel Keefer (R-92): c. We have freedom of religion. We need to band together – all churches – and challenge the current violations against our constitutional rights. The US accommodates every other religion except Christianity!

McGraw (I-92): a. Every citizen must have equal protections to their right to live freely and without fear of persecution, hate crimes or increased suicide risk. I side with Pope Francis, in extending freedoms to all individuals regardless of sexual orientation, to ensure the preservation of individual dignity, and health of our families.

Klein (D-97): They should include “sexual orientation” and “gender identity or expression” as protected classes, no exceptions. Our Federal law already protects employers and religious institutions. The U.S. Supreme Court ruled that religious organizations are completely exempt from anti-discrimination laws in employment decisions about persons holding such positions. I believe this anti-discrimination law would be more about providing equal access to government institutions. Access to housing, employment and public accommodation needs to be available to people regardless of their gender identity in the spirit of inclusion and affirming equal opportunity and access for all people.

Scudder (D-101): a. Everyone is equal in the eyes of the law. There should be absolutely no discrimination allowed against any one sector of our population.

Ryan (R-101): b.

Diamond (R-102): b.

Krankowski (D-107): b. Religious liberties of religious institutions should always be protected under any circumstance.

Masser (R-107): b.

Deppen (D-108): Segregationists and white supremacists used the Bible to justify their prejudices during the civil rights movement. Religious liberty cannot be a masquerade for bigotry. Let Galatians 5:14 guide us, “For the entire law is fulfilled in keeping this one command: ‘Love your neighbor as yourself.’”

Millard (R-109): b.

Blunk (R-169): b.

Marcoccio (NA-169): c. Does protecting gender identity and sexual orientation include pedophilia and encourage the exhibition of those gender and sexual preferences at work? Work is for work and not for the political advancement of personal liberties.

Tallman (R-193): b.

Bloom (R-199): c.

Question 5.

What is your position on increasing Medicaid reimbursement rates as a means to provide greater access to care for Medicaid-covered individuals?

ATTORNEY GENERAL

Shapiro (D): Support.

Rafferty (R): Support. Health care professionals deserve a fair reimbursement and the poor deserve care.

AUDITOR GENERAL

Brown (R): Support. The poor deserve care and I believe that health care professionals deserve to be adequately compensated.

STATE TREASURER

Voit (R): Support. Health care professionals deserve to be adequately compensated for caring for the less fortunate and I believe our society has an obligation to help those who can't help themselves.

STATE SENATE

Martin (R-13): Support. Though I believe that paying closer to the true cost of care is crucial to improved access to care and the prevention of cost-shifting onto those on private plans, there needs to be reforms, as other states have done, to gain efficiencies in the program to improve healthcare outcomes, reduce misdiagnosis rates (pegged at over 50% by auditing firms, resulting in much wasteful spending) and reduce unnecessary costs. This is an issue I have a great passion for.

DiSanto (R-15): I would support increased reimbursement rates only if the budget allowed it. Our top issue is to get our fiscal house in order, and I will work hard to cut wasteful spending so that we can invest in other important programs.

Gehosky (I-31): Support. It is to be understood that increasing Medicaid reimbursements will increase overall state spending.

STATE HOUSE

Miller (R-41): The causes of skyrocketing health care costs that underlie this issue need to be addressed while simultaneously looking at ways to incentivize health care providers to take Medicaid patients.

Elliott (D-43): Support. I believe that we have an obligation to protect and care for those who need it most and expanding access to care for Medicaid-covered individuals supports that belief.

Greiner (R-43): We need to find ways to reduce costs of care to start, so that we can determine if Medicaid reimbursement rates provide adequate access and coverage. It has to be looked at in a holistic manner.

Wetzel Keefer (R-92): Oppose. Government has proven time and again that they are not good stewards of our money. I'm not willing to give them more to waste on more bureaucracy and administrative over-head.

McGraw (I-92): Support. Access to quality healthcare for the elderly and economically disadvantaged is vital to a compassionate society. The health and safety of our communities is at risk when those in need are denied healthcare. I propose swift review of costs, and to budget accordingly to meet the needs of the people.

Klein (D-97): I support. It is imperative to a person's healthcare that they have access to a good primary physician. It would be less expensive to all for a person to seek routine checkups at a physician's office rather than go to an emergency room when sick. As a pharmacist I see the importance of relationships built around healthcare. I know the patients that allow me to fill their prescriptions. I know their doctors and physician office employees as well. When a patient has built a relationship with their providers their comfort allows them to ask any question that may come up. It leads to better healthcare and better outcomes. All people deserve access to good, affordable healthcare.

Scudder (D-101): Support. Doctors are refusing to see Medicaid patients due to the low reimbursement rates. Many of the people on Medicaid are our veterans, the elderly or children. These are the people we should be taking care of.

Ryan (R-101): Support. Medicaid rates are too low and reduce access to care. The ACA does not provide health care.

Diamond (R-102): Oppose. We can't afford it at this time.

Krankowski (D-107): Support.

Masser (R-107): Oppose. I would oppose this measure until the budget allowed for it. Then I would consider.

Deppen (D-108): Since 2011, I watched my parents end up on Medicaid Assistance due to overwhelming health care costs. They each died in nursing homes, with nothing left but the clothes in their closets. We are a nation of abundance, and that abundance should include health care for every stage of life.

Millard (R-109): Support.

Blunk (R-169): I agree that increasing reimbursement rates would provide greater access to care for individuals who are covered by Medicaid and that this is a good thing to ensure that our citizens are receiving needed health care services. However, I do have concerns regarding the costs associated with increasing the reimbursement rates and I believe that the costs should not be passed on to our taxpayers.

Marcoccio (NA-169): Oppose. Reimbursements to the facility or the individual? I do know that Affordable Health care is bankrupting EMS as Medicaid and Medicare have cut the payment for services to these vital organizations. I think we need to focus on maintaining an effective ambulance service before we make an emergency call and no one is there to respond.

Tallman (R-193): If the budget allows, yes, however, Medicaid in PA is one of our bigger fraud agencies.

Bloom (R-199): Oppose. We need to focus on reforms that improve the efficiency of Medicaid, for the benefit of both covered individuals and the taxpayers who are taxed to pay for these services.

Candidates for Congress

(Bold denotes response received)

Joshua Burkholder (D-4), **Scott Perry (R-4)**, Mike Parrish (D-6), **Ryan Costello (R-6)**, Mary Ellen Balchunis (D-7), Patrick Meehan (R-7), Art Halvorson (D-9), **Bill Shuster (R-9)**, Michael Molesevich (D-10), Tom Marino (R-10), Mike Marsicano (D-11), **Lou Barletta (R-11)**, **Rick Daugherty (D-15)**, Charles Dent (R-15), Paul Rizzo (L-15), Christina Hartman (D-16), **Lloyd Smucker (R-16)**, Shawn House (L-16)

Question 1.

What is your position on providing a federal tax credit to businesses that donate to scholarship organizations that provide scholarships for low-income students at private and religious schools in grades kindergarten through 12?

Perry (R-4): Support.

Costello (R-6): Support.

Shuster (R-9): Support.

Barletta (R-11): Support.

Daugherty (D-15): Support.

Smucker (R-16): Support.

Question 2.

Which statement reflects your position most accurately?

a. I support legalized abortion.

b. I oppose legalized abortion in all circumstances.

c. I oppose legalized abortion, except when the life of the mother is in danger or the pregnancy is a result of rape or incest.

Perry (R-4): c.

Costello (R-6): c.

Shuster (R-9): c. I am 100% pro-life and a proud member of the Congressional pro-life caucus.

Barletta (R-11): c.

Daugherty (D-15): c.

Smucker (R-16): c. I oppose legalized abortion, except when the life of the mother is in danger.

Question 3.

What is your position on legislation that would permit undocumented immigrants who have lived in the United States for a number of years, have worked and built equities in our country and who do not have criminal records to register with the government and take steps to earn legal status?

Perry (R-4): Oppose. We must secure the border first. Secondly, we are a nation of laws. While I empathize with the intent of this question, my oath is to uphold and defend the laws of this country and its citizens, and I feel for these illegal immigrants, let us please not forget they are here illegally. After we secure our borders, we can work on rights to earning citizenship.

Costello (R-6): The U.S. is the most generous and compassionate nation on the face of the Earth. I believe we need to continue to show respect and compassion to our fellow citizens. However, we must also deal with the reality that there are people in this world who wish to do us harm and there are entities out there who seek to exploit other humans for profit or political gain. We must secure our borders and recognize those who respected our immigration process while simultaneously working with those who broke the law in a humane and realistic manner.

Shuster (R-9): Oppose. I am opposed to any legislation that grants amnesty to millions of illegal immigrants.

Barletta (R-11): Oppose.

Daugherty (D-15): Support. Legal status but not citizenship for adults and substantial fines.

Smucker (R-16): (Did not respond)

Question 4.

What is your position on efforts to pass legislation (i.e., the Federal Employment Non-Discrimination Act) that would make sexual orientation and gender identity or expression protected classes that are equivalent to other protected classes (e.g., race, religion, sex, etc.)?

Perry (R-4): Oppose. I believe in no form of discrimination whatsoever – to include laws like this that only protect certain classes – which inherently discriminates against someone else's beliefs.

Costello (R-6): I am opposed to discrimination of any kind.

Shuster (R-9): Oppose.

Barletta (R-11): Oppose.

Daugherty (D-15): Support.

Smucker (R-16): Oppose. All Americans should be treated without discrimination regardless of race, religion, gender or sexual orientation.

Question 5.

What is your position on increasing Medicaid reimbursement rates as a means to provide greater access to care for Medicaid-covered individuals?

Perry (R-4): Oppose. Rates should be based on the area and rates of service.

Costello (R-6): I support efforts to provide greater access to quality health-care for all Americans, especially for those individuals most in need. However, I would need to review the specifics and better understand any proposal to increase Medicaid reimbursement rates, in particular, with respect to how such increases would be distributed and justified given the demand and need for care. Until I see the specifics of such a proposal, it is difficult to identify a "SUPPORT/OPPOSE" position to this question.

Shuster (R-9): (Did not respond)

Barletta (R-11): I support an improved Medicaid program that gives states the flexibility to provide better quality care for those in need.

Daugherty (D-15): Support.

Smucker (R-16): Support. Increasing Medicaid reimbursement rates could earn my support with proven advances in medical care and quantified savings.

Pennsylvania's U.S. Senate Candidates

In an effort to educate voters, the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference gave the statewide candidates the opportunity to make their positions known on key specific issues important to Catholics.

Incumbent Senator **Pat Toomey (R)** completed a written questionnaire, and those complete responses are available online at www.pacatholic.org. Candidate **Katie McGinty (D)** did not respond to the candidate questionnaire. Information about her views was therefore compiled from her campaign Web site and public statements.

On Life and Dignity of the Human Person

McGinty is endorsed by EMILY'S List, a political action committee with a mission to "elect pro-choice Democratic women to office." They describe McGinty as "pro-choice, and supports *Roe v. Wade*." (www.emilyslist.org)

Toomey opposes legalized abortion, except when the life of the mother is in danger or the pregnancy is a result of rape or incest. (PCC survey) He is endorsed by the PA Pro-Life Federation. (www.paprolife.org)

On Immigration

McGinty denounced federal legislation that would deny Community Development Block Grant funds to cities that in effect shelter or give sanctuary to illegal immigrants. At the same time, she wrote a letter to Philadelphia Mayor Jim Kenney requesting him to reconsider the city's immigration policy and open the dialogue with federal officials "so that those who pose a threat don't fall through any crack in local and federal jurisdiction." (katiemcginty.com)

Toomey describes our immigration system as "fundamentally broken." He has "supported efforts to strengthen border security, ensure that our immigration laws are enforced, and stop the outrageous practice of sanctuary cities that undermine our laws." (PCC survey)

On Tax Credits for School Choice

McGinty has not made public statements about funding tax credits for education at the federal level. She is endorsed by the Pennsylvania State Education Association (www.psea.org) as a "pro-public education candidate." PSEA has traditionally been opposed to school choice.

Toomey believes "we should empower parents to choose the best school for their kids whether they are public or private, religious or non-religious." He says he could support a federal education tax credit "as long as it was offset with a corresponding spending reduction." (PCC survey)

On Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Religious Liberty

McGinty has not commented specifically about religious exemptions in non-discrimination legislation. However, she says she will fight to expand anti-discrimination protections, "No one should be denied access to housing, healthcare or employment because of their gender identity or sexual orientation." (katiemcginty.com)

Toomey supported the Employment Non-Discrimination Act that would prohibit discrimination based on sexual orientation. However, he "introduced and forced a vote on an amendment to strengthen and broaden the bill's underlying protections for faith-based organizations." (PCC survey)

On Access to Health Care for the Poor

In a press release, **McGinty** said that she was "proud to work with Governor Wolf to expand Medicaid that provides health care to more than 600,000 Pennsylvanians" during her time as his chief-of-staff. (katiemcginty.com)

Toomey believes that Medicaid is a valuable program but that its "flawed financing structure encourages states to further expand their Medicaid programs while shifting growing costs to the federal government." He supports giving states more flexibility to encourage efficiency. He does not support further federal mandates. (PCC survey)

(The material on this page was published by the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference, the public affairs agency of Pennsylvania's Catholic Bishops. September 2016.)

Learn more about the candidates



Toomey for U.S. Senate

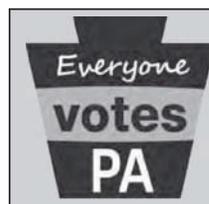
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Katie McGinty – Democrat for Senate

katiemcginty.com

Pennsylvania Catholic Conference – www.pacatholic.org



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