

**Pennsylvania Catholic Conference**  
U.S. Senate Questionnaire - Primary Election May 18, 2010

As part of a statewide effort to educate people about candidates and their positions on issues important to Catholic voters, the Pennsylvania Catholic Conference (PCC) sent a questionnaire to candidates for statewide office to give them the opportunity to make their positions known on key specific issues. The answers they provided are listed here for educational purposes only; the PCC does not endorse candidates for political office.

Do you support or oppose the use of taxpayer funds to pay for abortion?

**DEMOCRATS**

**SESTAK** Did not respond  
**SPECTER** OPPOSE

**REPUBLICANS**

**LUKSIK** OPPOSE\*  
\* *Oppose abortion - period*  
**TOOMEY** OPPOSE

Do you support or oppose legislation to prevent federal agencies and states that receive federal funds from discriminating against health care providers who do not perform or participate in abortions (Hyde-Weldon Amendment)?

**DEMOCRATS**

**SESTAK** Did not respond  
**SPECTER** OPPOSE

**REPUBLICANS**

**LUKSIK** SUPPORT\*  
\* *Support conscience clause provisions for agencies and workers.*  
**TOOMEY** SUPPORT

Do you support or oppose legislation to continue and expand current federal laws that provide educational benefits to students and teachers in private and religious schools on an equitable basis in comparison to the benefits received by public school students and teachers?

**DEMOCRATS**

**SESTAK** Did not respond  
**SPECTER** OPPOSE\*  
\* *I have concerns about the constitutional separation of church and state.*

**REPUBLICANS**

**LUKSIK** Did not indicate\*  
\* *Support ending federal role in education. If federal gov't is involved, there should be no discrimination against non-government schools*  
**TOOMEY** SUPPORT\*  
\* *I have been a long-term advocate for expanding parents' choice in schools through different funding mechanism.*

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?

**DEMOCRATS**

**SESTAK** Did not respond  
**SPECTER** OPPOSE

**REPUBLICANS**

**LUKSIK** SUPPORT  
**TOOMEY** Did not indicate\*  
*\* I have been a long-term supporter of PA's EITC Program that is very similar.*

Will you support or oppose significant annual increases in poverty-focused development assistance to reduce global poverty and increase the percentage of gross domestic product (GDP) contributed in foreign aid?

**DEMOCRATS**

**SESTAK** Did not respond  
**SPECTER** SUPPORT

**REPUBLICANS**

**LUKSIK** OPPOSE\*  
*\* We have a federal debt of over \$12 trillion dollars. We need to decrease federal spending, not pledge to spend more.*  
**TOOMEY** OPPOSE\*  
*\* Our perilous budget situation does not allow for this.*

Do you support or oppose legislation to increase aid for refugees who are fleeing from persecution abroad and to provide adequate funding for the U.S. refugee admissions program?

**DEMOCRATS**

**SESTAK** Did not respond  
**SPECTER** SUPPORT

**REPUBLICANS**

**LUKSIK** Did not indicate\*  
*\* Support appropriate asylum for those fleeing persecution.*  
**TOOMEY** Did not indicate\*  
*\* I support aid for refugees fleeing persecution, but I don't know if an increase in aid is necessary at this time.*

Indicate your position on this statement: The government should assume financial responsibility for providing affordable, accessible health care for the uninsured.

**DEMOCRATS**

**SESTAK** Did not respond  
**SPECTER** SUPPORT

**REPUBLICANS**

**LUKSIK** Did not indicate\*  
*\* Do not support concept that everyone has a right to have someone else pay for their health care. There is a place for state government to assist; however socialized medicine is a proven failure.*  
**TOOMEY** Did not indicate\*  
*\* I support helping those who are unable to help themselves. Those who are capable of supporting themselves should do so.*

Do you support or oppose embryonic stem cell research?

**DEMOCRATS**

**SESTAK** Did not respond  
**SPECTER** SUPPORT

**REPUBLICANS**

**LUKSIK** OPPOSE  
**TOOMEY** OPPOSE

Do you support or oppose legislation that would guarantee comprehensive freedom of conscience for health care providers and health care institutions?

**DEMOCRATS**

**SESTAK** Did not respond  
**SPECTER** OPPOSE

**REPUBLICANS**

**LUKSIK** SUPPORT  
**TOOMEY** SUPPORT

Do you support or oppose efforts to pass legislation that would make sexual orientation and gender identity or expression protected classes equivalent to other protected classes (e.g., race, religion, sex, etc.)?

**DEMOCRATS**

**SESTAK** Did not respond  
**SPECTER** SUPPORT

**REPUBLICANS**

**LUKSIK** OPPOSE  
**TOOMEY** OPPOSE

Do you support or oppose overturning the federal Defense of Marriage Act (DOMA)?

**DEMOCRATS**

**SESTAK** Did not respond  
**SPECTER** SUPPORT

**REPUBLICANS**

**LUKSIK** OPPOSE  
**TOOMEY** OPPOSE

Do you support or oppose 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?

**DEMOCRATS**

**SESTAK** Did not respond  
**SPECTER** SUPPORT

**REPUBLICANS**

**LUKSIK** OPPOSE\*

*\* Do not support rewarding illegal activity with citizenship; do support addressing immigration issues by closing borders, removing incentives; and addressing those already here with a plan.*

**TOOMEY** OPPOSE\*

*\* I support higher levels of legal immigration but oppose granting legal status to those who have broken our laws.*

Do you support or oppose legislation that would expedite the issuance of permanent visas for immediate family members, such as children, siblings, and spouses, of U.S. citizens and U.S. permanent residents?

#### **DEMOCRATS**

**SESTAK** Did not respond  
**SPECTER** SUPPORT

#### **REPUBLICANS**

**LUKSIK** Did not indicate\*

*\* Cannot give a blanket answer to what should be a case-by-case decision.*

**TOOMEY** Did not indicate\*

*\* I would support this in some cases, but it must be done in a way that respects the rule of law and protects the security of our country.*

