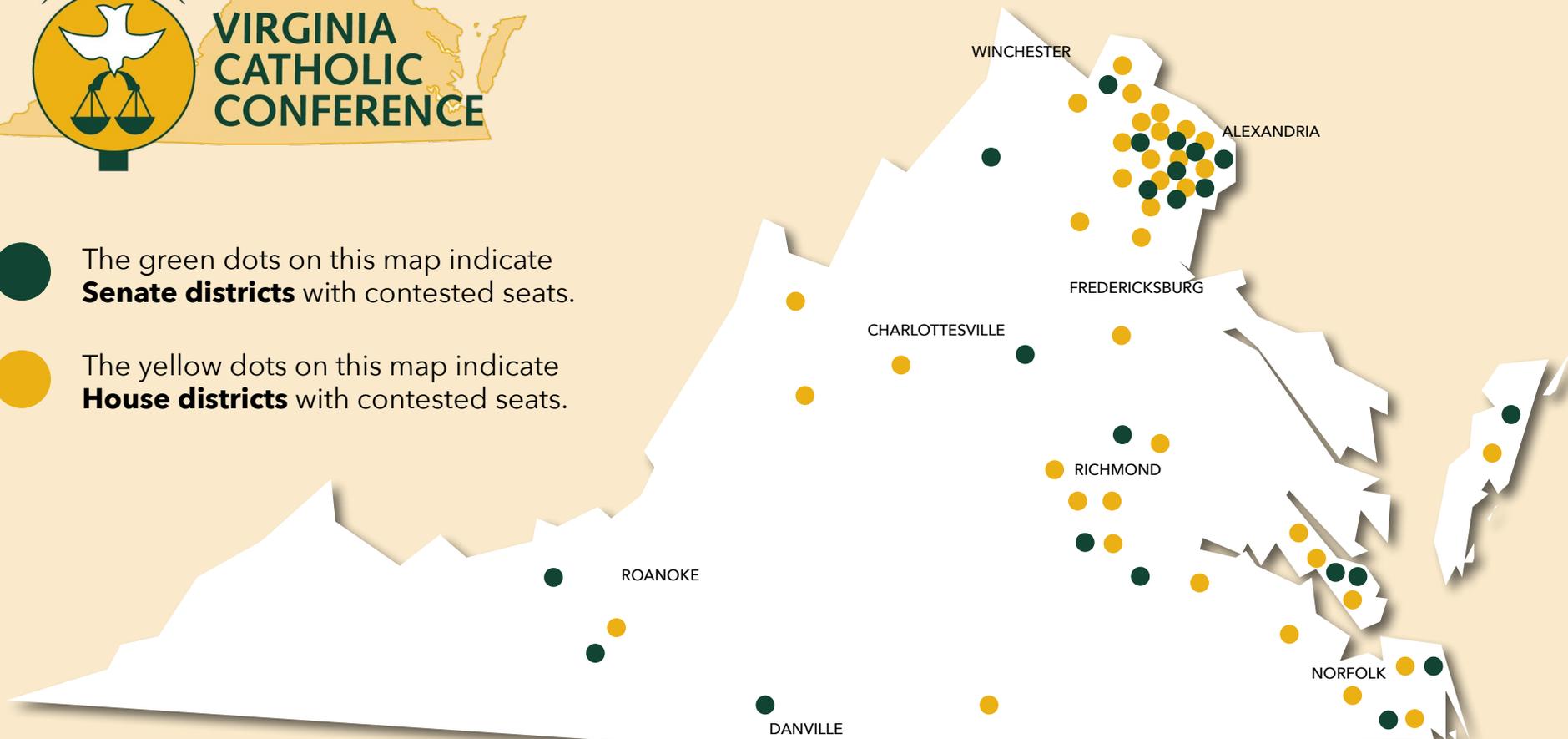


# Voters' Guide

## Contested General Assembly Races



-  The green dots on this map indicate **Senate districts** with contested seats.
-  The yellow dots on this map indicate **House districts** with contested seats.



1	11	21	35
3	12	26	36
6	13	29	37
7	17	30	39
8	19	31	
10	20	33	

2	24	33	43	62	86	97
10	25	34	46	68	87	100
12	27	37	47	71	93	
13	28	38	50	74	94	
20	31	40	55	81	95	
21	32	42	61	82	96	

**[Click here to find your Senate and House district](#)** and current legislators. To see this map online, go to **[www.vacatholic.org](http://www.vacatholic.org)**.

*This document prints on letter size paper.*

# Seven Key Themes of Catholic Social Teaching\*

## The Right to Life and the Dignity of the Human Person

Human life is sacred. Direct attacks on innocent human beings are never morally acceptable. Life is under direct attack from abortion, euthanasia and the destruction of human embryos for research. These intrinsic evils must always be opposed. This teaching also compels Catholics to oppose the death penalty, as well as to overcome poverty, racism and other conditions that demean human life.

## Call to Family, Community and Participation

The family, based on marriage between one man and one woman, is the fundamental unit of society. This institution must not be redefined, undermined or neglected. Supporting families should be a priority for economic and social policies. Every person and association has a right and a duty to participate in public life.

## Rights and Responsibilities

Every human being has a right to life, the fundamental right that makes all other rights possible. Each of us has a right to religious freedom, as well as a right to access those things required for human decency. Corresponding to these rights are duties and responsibilities to one another, to our families and to our larger society.

## Option for the Poor and Vulnerable

While the common good embraces all, those who are in greatest need deserve our preferential concern. A moral test for society is how we treat the weakest among us - the unborn, those dealing with disabilities or terminal illness, the poor and marginalized.

## Dignity of Work and the Rights of Workers

The economy must serve people, not the other way around. Economic justice calls for decent work at fair, living wages, opportunities for legal status for immigrant workers and the opportunity for all people to work together for the common good.

## Solidarity

We are one human family, whatever our national, racial, ethnic and ideological differences. Our Catholic commitment to solidarity requires that we pursue justice, eliminate racism, end human trafficking and protect human rights.

## Caring for God's Creation

Caring for the earth is a duty of our Catholic faith. We are called to be careful stewards of God's creation and to ensure a safe and hospitable environment for vulnerable human beings now and in the future.

*\*Adapted from "The Challenge of Forming Consciences for Faithful Citizenship." For more, go to [www.faithfulcitizenship.org](http://www.faithfulcitizenship.org).*

# What to Ask Your Candidates

On **Tuesday, November 3**, Virginia voters will have the opportunity to vote for Virginia Senate and House of Delegates candidates. Below are questions on issues that are of particular interest to many Catholics and are current topics of debate.

Before you vote, the Virginia Catholic Conference encourages you to email the candidates on your ballot and ask them the following questions. The candidates' contact information can be found at [www.elections.virginia.gov](http://www.elections.virginia.gov) under Online Voter Information, Candidates List, [here](#).

- Should the state Board of Health maintain Virginia's current regulations on abortion facilities?
- Should state taxpayer money be used to pay for abortions?
- As lethal injection drugs become more difficult to procure, should the General Assembly debate different methods of execution, or should it focus instead on life-without-parole sentencing as an alternative?
- What actions should the General Assembly take to protect the conscience rights of those who believe marriage is the union of one man and one woman?
- Would you support the automatic restoration of voting rights to people convicted of felonies who have completed their sentences?
- The Education Improvement Scholarships Tax Credits program provides state income-tax credits to individuals and businesses whose donations provide scholarships for low-income students to attend non-public K-12 schools. Would you support legislation to enhance this program?
- Should students who qualify for temporary lawful immigration status be eligible to receive in-state tuition to public colleges and universities?
- In absence of federal legislation, should the General Assembly seek to raise the minimum wage?
- What should the General Assembly do to protect Virginia's natural environment and preserve it for future generations?



**The Virginia Catholic Conference is the public policy agency representing Virginia's two Bishops and their Dioceses.**



**LEARN MORE AT  
[WWW.VACATHOLIC.ORG](http://WWW.VACATHOLIC.ORG)**

