

## Voter Guide – Federal & State Races Primary Election – August 23, 2022

(print download version from [www.vote411.org](http://www.vote411.org) as of 8/10/2022)

[Governor](#)  
[Attorney General](#)  
[Commissioner of Agriculture](#)  
[US Senate](#)  
[US House District 19](#)  
[State Representatives](#)

### Governor

The Governor is an elected constitutional officer and the highest state officer in Florida. A governor serves as the chief executive officer of a state. Everyday job duties include oversight of the state's executive leaders, policy review, as well as big picture budget management. Serves 4-year term with a limit of 2 consecutive terms. The Governor's 2021 salary was \$134,181.

### Charlie Crist



**Party:** Dem

**Biographical Info:**

**County:** Pinellas

**Age:** 65

**Hometown:** St. Petersburg, FL

**Campaign Twitter Handle:** @CharlieCrist

**Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/charliecrist/](http://www.facebook.com/charliecrist/)

**Education:** St. Petersburg High School (1974), Florida State University (BA, 1978), Cumberland School of Law (1981)

**Campaign Website:** [www.charliecrist.com](http://www.charliecrist.com)

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*The League of Women Voters is a non-partisan citizens' organization working to improve our government and engage all citizens in the decisions that impact their lives. The League's voter services activities provide unbiased, factual, information that can be used to understand the election process and to reach voting decisions.*

***The League of Women Voters does not support or oppose candidates and/or political parties.***

[www.lwvlee.org](http://www.lwvlee.org)      [lwvlee@lwvlee.org](mailto:lwvlee@lwvlee.org)      239-278-1032

**Why are you running for this elected position? What are the two most compelling issues on which, if elected, you feel you can make a difference?** I am running for governor because I am the candidate who can defeat Gov. DeSantis. I am running to restore the voice of the people in Tallahassee, to restore the voice of reason and civility in government, and to follow the Golden Rule so that all Floridians are treated with respect and dignity by their governor. I am running to protect our freedoms, the right for women to make their own decisions about their health care and their bodies, the right to vote, and the rights of LGBTQ+ Floridians.

**Insufficient housing is hurting Florida families and limiting Florida's economy. What state measures do you support to address the affordable housing crisis?** I will restore billions that have been diverted from the Sadowski Trust Fund back into housing affordability programs, and I will seek to repeal a DeSantis state law that permanently cut funding to the trust fund in half. I will appoint a housing czar to work with local governments on creating local housing affordability solutions. I will take on Wall Street firms that are buying up houses by helping local government limit their purchases and raising the documentary stamp tax on those purchases.

**What would you do to protect Florida's environment and address climate change?** My Clean Water for All plan includes reducing run-off by strengthening regulations and "best management practices" on agricultural lands, implementing recommendations from the harmful algal bloom task force, supporting water storage and wetland restoration on private property, removing all septic tanks and banning new ones in urban areas, and fully funding the Department of Environmental Protection. I will add 1 million new solar roofs and set ambitious renewable energy goals.

**How would you expand voter registration and ensure access to the ballot for all eligible voters?** I will reverse the DeSantis limits on mail ballots, allow Florida to automatically register to vote anyone who seeks a driver's license, move the primary election to spring to increase turnout, make Election Day a state holiday, make it easier for the governor and Cabinet to restore felons rights as I did as governor, and demand that lawmakers allow felons who have completed their sentences to register to vote as Amendment 4 intended while continuing to pay fines, court costs and restitution.

**Do you support passage of a state law codifying access to contraception and abortion? Why or why not?** Yes, because women have a right to make their own health care decisions. On Day 1 of my administration, I will issue an executive order to protect the right to choose as it stood under Roe v. Wade, and I will start gathering signatures for a constitutional amendment to erase any doubt that abortions will stay legal in Florida. If DeSantis gets lawmakers to adopt new restrictions in November, I will veto every Republican bill until they are repealed.

**Mass shootings grab headlines and spark calls for action. What legislation would you support to better protect people from gun violence?** I support closing loopholes regarding background checks, cracking down on ghost guns and gun trafficking, requiring the reporting of guns that are lost or stolen, banning the sale of assault weapons, lengthening the waiting period for buying a gun from three days to five days, strengthening our red flag law so that family and household members can petition the court to remove guns from persons at extreme risk to commit violence, and allowing local communities to make decisions on gun safety.

## **Cadance Daniel**



**Party:** Dem

**Biographical Info:**

**County:** Duval

**Age:** 35

**Hometown:** Jacksonville

**Campaign Twitter Handle:** @CadanceDaniel

**Facebook:** Cadance Daniel

**Education:** College educated in Business and International Relations  
**Campaign Website:** www.CadanceDaniel.com  
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**Campaign Mailing Address:** 7035 Philips Highway Suite 36 Jacksonville FL 32216  
**Instagram:** CadanceDanielFL

**Why are you running for this elected position? What are the two most compelling issues on which, if elected, you feel you can make a difference?** I am running for Governor of Florida because I desire to help all Floridians through the economic crisis the nation is currently facing. As a democrat, I desire to allocate more funding to the areas of social welfare and state stimulus' in the form of the FL GAS card to help Floridians through these high gas prices. As a business owner, I am running to further women in entrepreneurship in the area of small business as well as implement major criminal reform for the formerly incarcerated.

**Insufficient housing is hurting Florida families and limiting Florida's economy. What state measures do you support to address the affordable housing crisis?** Believe it or not it is possible to put regulations on these investment companies such as BlackRock that are buying up the homes of Floridians and making it nearly impossible for people to afford living in Florida. As governor of FL, I would implement regulations upon these companies and make sure Florida residents have the right to buy first. Other than this, Florida will assist in issuing subsidies to those facing evictions @ the moment due to the affordable housing crisis.

**What would you do to protect Florida's environment and address climate change?** As climate change is one of the main issues I am concerned about, FLORIDA GO GREEN is a major highlight of the Cadance Daniel administration. I am currently collaborating with energy companies all over Florida concerning my Florida Energy Economic Stimulus Package for the betterment of Florida's climate and to ensure that Floridian's have access to cleaner air.

**How would you expand voter registration and ensure access to the ballot for all eligible voters?** The Cadance Daniel administration would like to introduce blockchain technology to the state of Florida which will act as a secured open ledger in the progressive route of digital voting. Of course Florida would implement the best of software to ensure against compromising the blockchain; this is a solution for those that cannot make it to the polls and those that do not feel comfortable with mail in ballots; this voting is more secure as the vote remains private but the ledger is open to all.

**Do you support passage of a state law codifying access to contraception and abortion? Why or why not?** I support the right to codify access to contraception and abortion in congruence with the Women's Health Protection Act. Women's Rights need to be protected right now like never before. It's time to fight back.

**Mass shootings grab headlines and spark calls for action. What legislation would you support to better protect people from gun violence?** In the State of Florida, you must be 21 to purchase a firearm but anyone over 18 may own and possess a firearm; No one under 21 years old should be able to continue to possess firearms. I believe there should also be a ban on most assault rifles and the ones that are not banned the purchaser must be at least 25 years old with a firearm purchasing history that reflects gun safety and responsibility as well as able to pass an in depth psychological analysis.

## **Nicole "Nikki" Fried**



**Party:** Dem

**Biographical Info:**

**County:** Miami-Dade

**Age:** 44

**Hometown:** Miami, Florida

**Campaign Twitter Handle:** @nikkifried

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/nikki.fried/> **Education:** University of Florida, BS, JD, MS

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**Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/nikkifriedfl/>

**Why are you running for this elected position? What are the two most compelling issues on which, if elected, you feel you can make a difference?** We're tired of seeing politicians who have been in government for decades and lost touch with what's happening in Florida. I am running for Governor to build a stronger, fairer Florida. First, we are clearly facing an affordability crisis in this state. One of my first actions when I am governor will be to declare a housing state of emergency. I will also expand Medicaid because it is the right thing to do. It's good for Florida's economy and it saves lives.

**Insufficient housing is hurting Florida families and limiting Florida's economy. What state measures do you support to address the affordable housing crisis?** When I am governor, I will declare a housing state of emergency. I will establish an Affordable Housing and Planning Task Force to recommend immediate action, and direct the Attorney General to halt egregious rent hikes and investigate price gouging. I won't sign any bill that diverts Sadowski funds to non-affordable housing related projects. We will expand the Homestead Exemption up to \$100,000 of value, and offer additional property tax exemptions for those who own only one home.

**What would you do to protect Florida's environment and address climate change?** No state in the union is more susceptible to the effects of a changing climate than Florida. Instead of ignoring the environment, our government will embrace it. State initiative fostering energy efficiency and reducing waste will include:

- updating building codes
- examining power grids
- clean energy vehicles for the State
- focus on advanced energy sectors and work with unions and industry leaders to train workers for good-paying jobs.

Restoring the Everglades is non-negotiable.

**How would you expand voter registration and ensure access to the ballot for all eligible voters?** No American right is more sacred than your right to vote. I will take immediate steps to expand voting, not limit it:

- I will expand access to mail ballots.
- Automatically register to vote anyone who seeks a driver's license.
- Implement same day voter registration.
- Make Election Day a state holiday. Every voter, including working people, should have the best possible opportunity to cast their ballots.
- Work with Supervisors of Elections to ensure equitable polling sites.

**Do you support passage of a state law codifying access to contraception and abortion? Why or why not?** Yes. I am a lifelong supporter of reproductive freedom, and on day one of my administration, I will not only work to repeal the draconian limits on a woman's right to choose imposed by years of Republican governors and legislatures, but I will codify the protections of Roe v. Wade into state law.

**Mass shootings grab headlines and spark calls for action. What legislation would you support to better protect people from gun violence?** Throughout my time in office, I have worked for common sense gun violence solutions, from fixing the concealed weapons program and trying to address further safety loopholes, to seeking to elevate the issue with proclamations and initiatives to boost awareness. When I am governor, I will finally close the gun show loophole, the fingerprint retention loophole, and ban so-called "ghost guns," and I will issue a ban on assault-style rifles.

## **Robert Willis**



**Party:** Dem  
**Campaign Website:** <https://www.mrrobertwillis.com/>

**Why are you running for this elected position? What are the two most compelling issues on which, if elected, you feel you can make a difference?** -no response-

**Insufficient housing is hurting Florida families and limiting Florida's economy. What state measures do you support to address the affordable housing crisis?** -no response-

**What would you do to protect Florida's environment and address climate change?** -no response-

**How would you expand voter registration and ensure access to the ballot for all eligible voters?** -no response-

**Do you support passage of a state law codifying access to contraception and abortion? Why or why not?** -no response-

**Mass shootings grab headlines and spark calls for action. What legislation would you support to better protect people from gun violence?** -no response-

## Attorney General

Description: Chief law enforcement officer of the state, responsible for enforcing laws, protecting consumers, protecting civil rights, and defending the state in court actions. Is one of the three elected officials who make up the Governor's Cabinet. Serves 4-year term with a limit of 2 consecutive terms. The 2021 salary was \$132,841.

### Aramis Ayala



**Party:** Dem

**Biographical Info:**

**Campaign Mailing Address:** Post Office Box 691581OrlandoFL32869

**Campaign Website:** [www.aramisayala.com](http://www.aramisayala.com)

**Campaign Twitter Handle:** @AramisAyalaFL

**Hometown:** Windermere

**Campaign Phone:** (407)235-4298

**LinkedIn:** Aramis D. Ayala

**County:** Orange

**Instagram:**AramisAyalaFL

**Age:** 47

**Education:** University of Michigan '97, Juris Doctor- University of Detroit-Mercy School of Law '01, MS-University of Central Florida '09

**Facebook:** Aramis Ayala

**Why are you running for this elected position? What are the two most compelling issues on which, if elected, you feel you can make a difference?** Floridian's fundamental rights are being attacked and big corporations continue to corrupt the process. We need a fighter, As Florida's next Attorney General I will fight to protect our constitutional rights, build safer communities, and establish an economy that works for everyone. When elected I will make an immediate difference protecting women's rights and bodily autonomy. I will also ensure that our voting rights are protected and our democracy not only survives but thrives.

**Will you pledge to uphold constitutional amendments approved by the voters?** Support

**The fines and fees system disproportionately impacts people of color and people living in poverty. What would you propose to change this situation?** Yes. As a former Assistant Public Defender, Assistant State Attorney

and elected State Attorney I witnessed first-hand the poverty penalty it is impact on Black, Brown, and poor people. We must start addressing this harmful practice that eliminates driver's license suspensions based on failure to pay court fines. Additionally, juveniles should be exempt from these fees in order to avoid the lifelong trap and cycle of incarceration often unrelated to violent crime.

**How would you enforce the Florida Sunshine Law and Public Records Law to ensure public access to governmental meetings and records?** Enforcement of Sunshine Law and Public Records Law must be consistent. The failure to consistently investigate and enforce the law send the message that it is flexible and easily undermined. Justice requires consistency. As Attorney General I would promote legislation that increases penalties for violations of Sunshine and Public Records Laws. The increased penalties would prove how serious of a crime it is to investigators, prosecutors, and those who may be tempted to violate the laws.

**How will you evaluate the effectiveness of the special agents dedicated to investigating alleged election law violations and ensuring transparency on their findings to the public?** It will be important to hear from and include local election officials in the process. They have taken seriously their obligation to the people of Florida, long before what seems to be a manufactured problem, as best. The effectiveness will be based upon comparing investigative activity, looking for consistency and not discriminatory a practice. At all times, my office will remain a distinct entity so that our findings will be independent and will not require approval from another agency.

**Many Floridians are concerned about becoming a victim of consumer fraud or identity theft. What additional protections, if any, will you pursue as Attorney General?** One of the first things I am prepared to launch when I take office is an investigative unit that focuses on insurance company practices in Florida. Not only are we facing high insurance premiums, many have paid for coverage for years, only to see companies pack up and close business. This has left far too may Floridian's paying the price of fraud. Focusing on economic injustices will lead to more freedom and justice for all.

## **Jim Lewis**



**Party:** Dem

**Campaign Website:** <https://jimlewis4florida.com/>

**Why are you running for this elected position? What are the two most compelling issues on which, if elected, you feel you can make a difference?** -no response-

**Will you pledge to uphold constitutional amendments approved by the voters?** -no response-

**The fines and fees system disproportionately impacts people of color and people living in poverty. What would you propose to change this situation?** -no response-

**How would you enforce the Florida Sunshine Law and Public Records Law to ensure public access to governmental meetings and records?** -no response-

**How will you evaluate the effectiveness of the special agents dedicated to investigating alleged election law violations and ensuring transparency on their findings to the public?** -no response-

**Many Floridians are concerned about becoming a victim of consumer fraud or identity theft. What additional protections, if any, will you pursue as Attorney General?** -no response-

## **Daniel Uhlfelder**



**Party:** Dem

**Biographical Info:**

**County:** Walton

**Campaign Phone:** 850-400-6074

**Age:** 49

**Campaign Mailing Address:** 124 East County Highway 30-A, Santa Rosa Beach, FL 32459

**Hometown:** Santa Rosa Beach

**Campaign Website:** <https://www.danielforag.com/>

**Campaign Twitter Handle:** <https://twitter.com/DWUhlfelderLaw>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/DanielForAG>

**Education:** Stanford University, B.A., 1993; University of Florida College of Law, J.D., 1996

**Why are you running for this elected position? What are the two most compelling issues on which, if elected, you feel you can make a difference?** I never shy away from a tough fight. That's why the media has referred to me as Ron DeSantis' "chief tormentor." So yes, when I saw thousands of Floridians dying from COVID, I put on a grim reaper costume to highlight DeSantis' horrible mishandling of the pandemic. Now, I'm running for attorney general to clamp down on corruption in Tallahassee and come after corporations who are jacking up prices. I will always be relentless in pursuit of justice for Florida families.

**Will you pledge to uphold constitutional amendments approved by the voters?** -Support

**The fines and fees system disproportionately impacts people of color and people living in poverty. What would you propose to change this situation?** Fines and fees for low-level nonviolent offenses punish people who cannot afford them, while wealthy offenders skate by. This is unjust. When people are in difficult circumstances, our criminal justice system should help turn things around—not push them further into poverty and desperation. When unpaid debt leads to punishments like drivers' license suspensions, it just makes the situation worse. My office would be focused on keeping our families safe, not keeping people in poverty.

**How would you enforce the Florida Sunshine Law and Public Records Law to ensure public access to governmental meetings and records?** A huge reason I'm running for office is because I am sick and tired of backroom and corporate agendas running our state government. I will always support laws like the Sunshine Law that give the public greater access to their government and public records. Floridians deserve to know what their representatives are doing, so they can hold them accountable to the promises they made on the campaign trail, and to high ethical standards.

**How will you evaluate the effectiveness of the special agents dedicated to investigating alleged election law violations and ensuring transparency on their findings to the public?** DeSantis' election police are a clear attempt to intimidate and suppress the vote. It's another example of how voting rights are under attack in Florida. AG Ashley Moody joined a lawsuit attempting to overturn the legitimate 2020 election. Republicans in Florida are creating electoral districts to favor themselves through gerrymanders. It's time to put a stop to this. We deserve an attorney general who will ALWAYS fight to protect and expand the right to vote.

**Many Floridians are concerned about becoming a victim of consumer fraud or identity theft. What additional protections, if any, will you pursue as Attorney General?** Consumer protection is such a critical role of this office that it even has its own division, with dedicated attorneys. But the current AG has completely abdicated this responsibility, instead dedicating her time to defending the governor's culture war. From rising rents to outrageous property insurance hikes to out of control utility costs, clamping down on corporate greed is my core reason for running for this office. I will ensure that this office is used in defense of everyday Floridians.

## **Commissioner of Agriculture**

Description: The Commissioner safeguards the public through testing and inspection of food products, regulation of deceptive and unfair business practices, reduction of wildfires, promotion of environmentally safe agricultural practices, and management of public lands. The Commissioner also supervises the issuing of various state vocational licenses licenses to carry concealed weapons or concealed firearms. Is one of three members of the Governor's Cabinet. Serves 4-year term with a limit of 2 consecutive terms. The 2021 salary was \$132,841.

## **Naomi Blemur**



**Party:** Dem

**Biographical Info:**

**County:** Miami-Dade

**Campaign Phone:** (347)7345395

**Age:** 43

**Campaign Mailing Address:** 685 Northeast 126th Street North Miami FL 33161

**Hometown:** North Miami

**Campaign Website:** naomiblemur.com

**Campaign Twitter Handle:** <https://twitter.com/NaomiforFL>

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/NaomiforFL>

**Education:** Queen's College- Accounting & Economics, Masters in BA from Barry University

**LinkedIn:** <https://www.linkedin.com/in/naomiblemur/>

**Instagram:** <https://www.instagram.com/naomiforfl/>

**Why are you running for this elected position? What are the two most compelling issues on which, if elected, you feel you can make a difference?** As the granddaughter of farmers, a community advocate, a local business owner, and a mother, I am running because we need a strong leader in Tallahassee that will advocate for small farmers, clean water, renewable and sustainable energy, and a better environment for our families and children. My two most important causes are to create community farming and advocate for small farmers to get access to capital.

**What steps would you take to address food insecurity?** I want to analyze what our state is able to produce and expand on Community food farming. As a commissioner of agriculture, I will build a robust community food farming that will empower families across the state to grow their own fruits and vegetables. I will advocate for and support the development of those small, family owned market businesses.

**What are the key issues of concern for Florida consumers, and what ideas do you have to improve the Division of Consumer Services?** Families and individuals being unable to purchase homes is the largest issue facing Florida consumers, forcing them into an unregulated renting environment. Additionally, too many firearms are making it into the hands of those who shouldn't have them through unregulated loopholes. These issues are consumer regulation issues and are among the first I'd address. I would advocate for a statewide tenant bill of rights and vet concealed weapon licenses applications because our lives depend on it

**What is the most important issue facing agriculture and forestry in Florida? Please explain why it is important.** Drought, produce protection, and our farmer's mental health. Our markets need to protect our farmers and reduce consumption from other countries on what we can produce. Droughts are affecting livestock and farmers' mental health triggering an increase in suicide rate; this is an issue that has gone unaddressed and is severely impacting our agriculture industry.

**What measures do you propose to better manage agricultural runoff of fertilizers and other pollutants which contribute to harmful algae blooms and reduced water quality?** I would advocate to invest in water recycling & recollection. I will hold the parties responsible for the contaminated water, responsible and meet with experts to educate farmers on best practices to avoid pollutants being in ground water and other running water.

## **J. R. Gaillot**



**Party:** Dem

**Biographical Info:**

**County:** Clay County

**Campaign Phone:** 904-830-1675

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**Campaign Website:** jr4ag@jrgaillot.com

**Campaign Twitter Handle:** @jrgaillot

**Facebook:** <https://www.facebook.com/JR4Florida>

**Education:** BA in Politics and Government, BA in Political Economy from Hartford University; studying for his Master's in International Relations at Harvard University

**Instagram:** @jr\_gaillot

**Why are you running for this elected position? What are the two most compelling issues on which, if elected, you feel you can make a difference?** I want to expand consumer protections to reflect the needs of all Floridians, not just the values of the rich. I hope to bridge the wage gap between the upper and lower class, by tackling predatory practices that target low income families and end up causing them a financial burden while the wealthy profit. Protecting all citizens means acknowledging the economic warfare and corporate greed that disproportionately affect certain groups, hindering equal access to opportunity and wellbeing.

**What steps would you take to address food insecurity?** We must regulate the food and drink monopolies, like Nestle, PepsiCo, and Tyson foods, who control their market and have the ability to continuously raise their rates despite an increase in production costs. I will pursue dominant corporations who have engaged in predatory marketing, ensuring protections for Florida's consumers. We must tackle inflation now by demanding large corporations stop overcharging for food and other basic necessities, and enact fair rates for consumers.

**What are the key issues of concern for Florida consumers, and what ideas do you have to improve the Division of Consumer Services?** Affordable housing is at crisis level in Florida. As prices for rent continue to rise, enforcing a rent hike cap would help alleviate the financial burden that renters face, while also protecting landlords ability to maintain a profit. We also need to remove credit scores and the requirement that prospective tenants make 3x the minimum rent. Considering the cost of rent is continuously rising, this current policy is extremely harmful for low income families and we must fix this.

**What is the most important issue facing agriculture and forestry in Florida? Please explain why it is important.** Sugar cane burning is a practice which is extremely detrimental to the quality Florida's natural resources by causing unnecessary greenhouse gasses to be released into our environment. I am working on a policy banning open burn permits, to prevent pre-harvest sugar cane burning and reduce the avoidable carbon emissions released through this harmful practice.

**What measures do you propose to better manage agricultural runoff of fertilizers and other pollutants which contribute to harmful algae blooms and reduced water quality?** My plan to address and better manage agricultural runoff is to place a hold on the sale of damaging fertilizers, and to limit the use of harmful chemicals such as nitrogen and phosphorus. My office will also pursue any individuals responsible for agricultural, aquacultural, and environmental damage across the state, ensuring a more sustainable and cleaner future is on the horizon.

## **Ryan Morales**



**Party:** Dem

**Biographical Info:**

**County:** Lake

**Campaign Phone:** 3054011702

**Age:** 45

**Campaign Mailing Address:** 10321 Alameda Alma RdClermontFL34711

**Hometown:** Clermont, FL

**Campaign Website:** moralesforflorida.com

**Campaign Twitter Handle:** MoralesForFL

**Facebook:** facebook.com/MoralesForFL

**Education:** University of William Paterson and Institute of Audio Research

**LinkedIn:** linkedin.com/company/ryan-for-florida/

**Instagram:**RyanForFlorida

**Why are you running for this elected position? What are the two most compelling issues on which, if elected, you feel you can make a difference?** my kid's futures are in jeopardy and we must reverse all the damages done to our state.

**What steps would you take to address food insecurity?** I would launch my Lawn2Garden program which would help low-income families grow and manage their own food sources with the help of my department.

**What are the key issues of concern for Florida consumers, and what ideas do you have to improve the Division of Consumer Services?** Being scammed out of their money is the biggest issue here for Consumers. We would focus on implementing newer technology that will help us go into the future safely. My goal is to bring Florida into the future. We need to be 2 steps ahead of the rest and really become a hub for technology here.

**What is the most important issue facing agriculture and forestry in Florida? Please explain why it is important.** Clean water and waste management are the biggest issues facing the community along with Climate Change Impacts on the crops. The more the temperature rises the fewer crops we will yield and the more water they will require. We need to improve our BMPs to help us deal with the clean water issue properly.

**What measures do you propose to better manage agricultural runoff of fertilizers and other pollutants which contribute to harmful algae blooms and reduced water quality?** I have the technology available to clean up the mess that has been created from over a century of Agricultural runoff. From months instead of years, we can fix Lake Okeechobee and restore our Everglades.

## **James Shaw**



**Party:** Rep

**Campaign Website:** <https://defendourunion.org/candidates/james-shaw-fl-commissioner-of-agriculture>

**Why are you running for this elected position? What are the two most compelling issues on which, if elected, you feel you can make a difference?** -no response-

**What steps would you take to address food insecurity?** -no response-

**What are the key issues of concern for Florida consumers, and what ideas do you have to improve the Division of Consumer Services?** -no response-

**What is the most important issue facing agriculture and forestry in Florida? Please explain why it is important.** -no response-

**What measures do you propose to better manage agricultural runoff of fertilizers and other pollutants which contribute to harmful algae blooms and reduced water quality?** -no response-

## US Senate

### Ricardo De La Fuente



**Party:** Dem

**Biographical Info:**

**Campaign Website:** <https://ricardodelafuente.com/>

**Name your top two legislative priorities for this upcoming term.** - no response -

**What laws, if any, should be passed to combat misinformation that challenges people's trust in our democracy?** - no response -

**Do you support passage of federal voting rights legislation to provide national standards for voter registration and access to the ballot? Why or why not?** - no response -

**Do you see climate change as a threat to the country? Why or why not? What laws to address climate change would you support?** - no response -

**Do you support passage of a federal law codifying access to contraception and abortion? Why or why not?** - no response -

### Val Demings



**Party:** Dem

**Biographical Info:**

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**Campaign Twitter Handle:** @valdemings  
**Campaign Instagram URL:** www.instagram.com/valdemings/  
**Campaign Facebook URL:** www.facebook.com/val.demings  
**Campaign YouTube URL:** https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCsdPPdCg3LnVkcZhUT1sJXQ

**Name your top two legislative priorities for this upcoming term.** In the United States Senate, I will prioritize the issues that matter most to Florida families like lowering the cost of living, including gas prices and housing, and fighting to make our communities safer. Everyone should be able to work hard, play by the rules, and achieve the American Dream, and they deserve to achieve the American Dream while living in safe communities. As Orlando's Chief of Police, we were able to reduce violent crime by 40%, the largest reduction in the city's history. I know what it takes to do the hard work, fight the tough fights, and get things done, and that's exactly what I'll do in the United States Senate.

**What laws, if any, should be passed to combat misinformation that challenges people's trust in our democracy?** We know that we need to rebuild trust in our democracy. As a law enforcement officer of 27 years, I know how important it is for people to have trust in the institutions of our country, and how precious that trust is. In the United States Senate, I will work to rebuild trust and foster faith in our democracy. I would support legislation to combat attempts to misinform voters trying to make their voices heard in our elections, secure the right to vote, and make participating in our elections more accessible for more citizens. We must hold America to its promise and ensure that we truly are a government of the people, by the people, and for the people.

**Do you support passage of federal voting rights legislation to provide national standards for voter registration and access to the ballot? Why or why not?** My friend and former colleague John Lewis said the right to vote was precious, that it was almost sacred. The right to vote is the cornerstone of our democracy and we must do everything in our power to protect it. As a law enforcement officer, I spent 27 years enforcing the laws, and now I get to write them. In the United States Senate I will fight to pass voting rights legislation that protects the right to vote and establishes national standards for voter registration and access to the ballot box.

**Do you see climate change as a threat to the country? Why or why not? What laws to address climate change would you support?** I spent 27 years at the Orlando Police Department, so believe me when I say that I take any and all threats to the people of Florida very seriously. I do believe that climate change is an emergency and that Florida stands to pay a terrible price in the form of stronger hurricanes, sea level rise, and more. Unless we act, climate change will cost countless lives and trillions of dollars in damage, not only in Florida, but across the country. In the United States Senate, I will proudly support climate legislation that will create jobs and grow our economy by investing in new green tech and other efforts to stop climate change and prepare for its impacts.

**Do you support passage of a federal law codifying access to contraception and abortion? Why or why not?** Only good federal legislation codifying our rights into federal law will protect our rights. In the House of Representatives, I've fought to pass legislation that would protect a woman's right to choose and keep interstate travel for those seeking reproductive healthcare legal. Anti-choice extremists want to use our law enforcement officers to jail women and doctors, instead of the criminals that they should be trying to catch. I spent 27 years in law enforcement, and I will fight to ensure that our officers can focus on fighting crime and keeping our communities safe, not targeting women and doctors. I will always stand up for a woman's right to choose, and fight to pass federal legislation that codifies Roe and access to contraceptives.

## **Marco Rubio**



**Party:** Rep  
**Biographical Info:**

**Campaign Website:** <https://marcorubio.com/>

**Name your top two legislative priorities for this upcoming term.** -no response-

**What laws, if any, should be passed to combat misinformation that challenges people's trust in our democracy?** -no response-

**Do you support passage of federal voting rights legislation to provide national standards for voter registration and access to the ballot? Why or why not?** -no response-

**Do you see climate change as a threat to the country? Why or why not? What laws to address climate change would you support?** -no response-

**Do you support passage of a federal law codifying access to contraception and abortion? Why or why not?** -no response-

## **Brian Rush**



**Party:** Dem

### **Biographical Info:**

**Campaign Mailing Address:** PO Box 274128, Tampa, FL 33688

**Campaign Phone:** 813-943-6573

**Campaign Website:** [rushforsenate.com](http://rushforsenate.com)

**Name your top two legislative priorities for this upcoming term.** Reducing Inflation, primarily by reducing deficit spending through a bipartisan budget deal and by producing clean and abundant energy. Increasing production of clean energy sources along with ensuring an adequate production of domestic oil and gas, as a bridge to clean solar, wind and other renewable power.

**What laws, if any, should be passed to combat misinformation that challenges people's trust in our democracy?** Almost all communication, especially political communication, is protected under the First Amendment to the US Constitution as free speech. The government is prohibited from enacting any laws regulating the content or restricting an individual's use of their free speech rights, except for reasonable regulation of time, place or manner of speech. In other words, the government usually cannot pass any laws to combat misinformation, because whether speech is true or false is to be determined in a marketplace of ideas, by the people. The solution to bad speech is more good speech, rather than prohibiting some information.

**Do you support passage of federal voting rights legislation to provide national standards for voter registration and access to the ballot? Why or why not?** I support a simple Federal voting rights Act prohibiting discrimination in voter registration, voting and access to the ballot for all 50 states and all U.S. territories, while prohibiting any discrimination based on race, gender or religious preference, which would be enforced by the Federal Courts, consistent with long existing legal standards for ensuring against voter fraud.

**Do you see climate change as a threat to the country? Why or why not? What laws to address climate change would you support?** Climate change is a threat to the U.S. and to the rest of the world. Sea level rise is a particularly serious threat to the state of Florida and the coastal U.S. Increasing temperatures especially in the hot summer months are a threat to public and individual health. Water shortages in some areas can threaten crops and availability of clean water. Laws that restrict carbon emissions over time as well as incentives to incorporate more clean energy sources can help reduce overall carbon emissions. However, it is critical that all countries participate in the effort to reduce carbon emissions.

**Do you support passage of a federal law codifying access to contraception and abortion? Why or why not?** Yes. I support codifying state and federal law to protect a woman's right to make health care decisions and protect a woman's reproductive rights, especially to protect the life and physical health of the woman. Generally, we should

trust the mother and her physician to make the appropriate decisions prior to fetal viability. After fetal viability, the baby in utero and the pregnant mother have rights which should be protected. However, the mother's life and physical health are primary, and we should trust the mother and her physicians to make the right decisions to protect the mother's life and physical health. Generally, the government should stay out of this decision process, and we should trust the mother.

## **William Jose Sanchez**



**Party:** Dem

**Biographical Info:**

**Campaign Mailing Address:** sw 134 a e. Suite 209 Miami 13590

**Campaign Phone:** 3089913613

**Campaign Website:** [www.sanchezforsenate.com](http://www.sanchezforsenate.com)

**Campaign Twitter Handle:** @sanchezforsen

**Campaign Instagram URL:** [instagram.com/sanchezforsen?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=](https://www.instagram.com/sanchezforsen?igshid=YmMyMTA2M2Y=)

**Campaign Facebook URL:** [www.facebook.com/WilliamSanchezforSenate](https://www.facebook.com/WilliamSanchezforSenate)

**Campaign YouTube URL:** [www.youtube.com/channel/UCoHsZm-pMbfss6YhgRzY-\\_w](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCoHsZm-pMbfss6YhgRzY-_w)

**Name your top two legislative priorities for this upcoming term.** My first priority is to check the balance of power and take on the Supreme Court. This means codifying Roe, passing a Green New Deal that will ensure businesses can't get away with destroying our environment, passing the strongest gun safety bill that will get through the courts, as well as preemptively codifying Obergefell into law before this destructive court takes away marriage equality. The second priority is personal. I have been an immigration attorney for the past 30 years. I have seen this issue be radicalized and used to scare people. The entire immigration system has to be redone. ICE needs to be abolished, and we need to provide a home for those that we have displaced due to our disregard for the environment.

**What laws, if any, should be passed to combat misinformation that challenges people's trust in our democracy?** We need to regulate social media companies the same way we handle other media outlets. Algorithms that promote views over truth are destructive not only to our democracy but the mental health of everyone globally. Free speech has its limits and there should be protocol for misinformation that could potentially lead to violence (like what was seen on January 6th).

**Do you support passage of federal voting rights legislation to provide national standards for voter registration and access to the ballot? Why or why not?** Yes. Everyone in the United States has a right to vote and no individual state should have the power to restrict that right. Voting rates in the United States are very low for a developed democracy. We need election day to be a federal holiday and we need strict federal guidelines that all states have to follow.

**Do you see climate change as a threat to the country? Why or why not? What laws to address climate change would you support?** I am the only candidate in the race that supports the Green New Deal. Some call this radical. I say not doing everything that we can do to prevent catastrophic damage to our planet is what's really radical. As a country we need to be carbon neutral by 2050, our cities need to be built so that cars are not the only means of transportation, and we need this to get done by a major federal investment. This is a matter of national security so if there is money for war, there should be money for this.

**Do you support passage of a federal law codifying access to contraception and abortion? Why or why not?** This is a national health emergency. The UN classifies the right to an abortion as a human right. If the Supreme Court won't recognize this, then the federal government must stand up and take action. This is a time sensitive issue; every day these restrictive laws stay in place people's lives are at risk.

## US House District 19

### Cindy Banyai



**Party:** Dem

**Biographical Info:**

**Campaign Mailing Address:** PO Box 2923 Fort Myers FL 33902

**Campaign Phone:** 239-351-5574

**Campaign Website:** [www.cindybanyai.com/](http://www.cindybanyai.com/)

**Campaign Twitter Handle:** @Cindy\_Banyai\_FL

**Campaign Instagram URL:** [www.instagram.com/drcindybanyai/?igshid=YmMyMTA2MY2Y%3D](https://www.instagram.com/drcindybanyai/?igshid=YmMyMTA2MY2Y%3D)

**Campaign Facebook URL:** [www.facebook.com/DrCindyBanyai](https://www.facebook.com/DrCindyBanyai)

**Campaign YouTube URL:** Cindy Banyai For Congress

**Name your top two legislative priorities for this upcoming term.** Our water – Protect our waters by funding research of red tide and blue-green algae and holding polluters accountable. This includes ensuring that environmental protections such as the Environmental Protections Act are passed, and environmental protections are enforced.

Our health – reforming healthcare to make it affordable and accessible to everyone, cutting out profiteering through cost-setting, creating a national program with decentralized administration and sliding scale user fees for participation focusing on preventative care. This includes codifying abortion rights into law, and ensuring reproductive rights are ensured for all Floridians. We won't go back!

**Enumere sus dos prioridades legislativas durante el próximo periodo.** Nuestra agua: proteja nuestras aguas financiando la investigación de la marea roja y las algas verdeazuladas y responsabilizando a los contaminadores. Esto incluye garantizar que se aprueben las protecciones ambientales, como la Ley de Protección Ambiental, y cumplir las protecciones ambientales.

Nuestra salud: reformar la atención médica para que sea asequible y accesible para todos, eliminar la especulación a través de la fijación de costos, crear un programa nacional con administración descentralizada y tarifas de usuario de escala móvil para que la participación se centre en la atención preventiva. Esto incluye codificar el derecho al aborto en la ley y garantizar que se garanticen los derechos reproductivos para todos los floridianos.

**What laws, if any, should be passed to combat misinformation that challenges people's trust in our democracy?** I support bills like H.R.6971 - Educating Against Misinformation and Disinformation Act that would help spread and make commissions to support information and media literacy. I also support efforts to hold companies that monetize misinformation accountable. We can not allow institutions to undermine our government and public safety.

**¿Cuáles leyes, si alguna, deberían ser aprobadas para combatir la desinformación que está poniendo en juego la confianza del pueblo en nuestra democracia?** Apoyo proyectos de ley como H.R.6971 - Ley de educación contra la desinformación que ayudaría a difundir y hacer comisiones para apoyar la información y la alfabetización mediática. También apoyó los esfuerzos para responsabilizar a las empresas que monetizan la información errónea. No podemos permitir que las instituciones socaven nuestro gobierno y la seguridad pública.

**Do you support passage of federal voting rights legislation to provide national standards for voter registration and access to the ballot? Why or why not?** Yes. I fully support bills like the H.R.4 - John R. Lewis Voting Rights. Ensuring every American has the right to vote and vote how they want to whether that is in person or by mail has the protected right to do so. Voting is one of our sacred rights as Americans and we must fight to make sure that it is protected for everyone. Voting is under attack especially in red states like Florida and Texas. We must be willing to do whatever it takes to defend our voting rights.

**¿Usted apoya la aprobación de una ley federal de derecho al voto, de manera que existan estándares que se deban cumplir en todo el país en cuanto a inscripción o registro electoral y acceso a papeletas de**

**votación? ¿Por qué sí o por qué no?** Sí. Apoyo totalmente proyectos de ley como H.R.4 - Derechos de voto de John R. Lewis. Garantizar que todos los estadounidenses tengan derecho a votar y votar como quieran, ya sea en persona o por correo, teniendo el derecho protegido de hacerlo. Votar es uno de nuestros derechos sagrados como estadounidenses y debemos luchar para asegurarnos de que esté protegido para todos. La votación está bajo ataque, especialmente en estados republicanos como Florida y Texas. Debemos estar dispuestos a hacer lo que sea necesario para defender nuestro derecho al voto.

**Do you see climate change as a threat to the country? Why or why not? What laws to address climate change would you support?** Climate is an immediate threat to our country and especially our state. I recognize the climate as a crisis. In Southwest Florida we have dealt with extreme repercussions already from hurricanes and extreme flooding and even red tide which has threatened our livelihoods and killed our wildlife. I support legislation like H.Res.332. I recognize that we need to overhaul our ways of living and how climate change has affected people, especially economically disadvantaged communities and people of color. Recent Supreme Court rulings have also gutted environmental protections. Bills like H. R. 8395 codifies environmental protections and enforces adequate pollution restrictions. I fully support protecting our environment and our water.

**¿Usted cree que el cambio climático es una amenaza a nuestro país? ¿Por qué sí o por qué no? ¿Cuáles leyes para hacer frente al cambio climático estaría usted dispuesto a apoyar?** El cambio climático es una amenaza inmediata para nuestro país y especialmente para nuestro estado. Reconozco el cambio climático como una crisis. En el suroeste de Florida ya hemos lidiado con repercusiones extremas de huracanes e inundaciones extremas e incluso marea roja que ha amenazado nuestros medios de subsistencia y ha matado a nuestra vida silvestre. Apoyo legislación como H.Res.332. Reconozco que debemos revisar nuestras formas de vida y cómo el cambio climático ha afectado a las personas, especialmente a las comunidades económicamente desfavorecidas y a las personas de color. Los fallos recientes de la Corte Suprema también han destruido las protecciones ambientales. Proyectos de ley como H. R. 8395 codifican las protecciones.

**Do you support passage of a federal law codifying access to contraception and abortion? Why or why not?** Yes. I fully support codifying access to contraceptives and to abortion. Abortion is a human right, it is healthcare. Restricting access to contraceptives and abortion is dangerous, violates our privacy as Americans, leaving people to suffer. People have the right to body autonomy and should be able to choose when and how to have a family.

**¿Usted apoya la aprobación de una ley federal que establezca normas y reglas para el acceso a anticonceptivos y abortos? ¿Por qué sí o por qué no?** Sí. Apoyo totalmente la codificación del acceso a los anticonceptivos y al aborto. El aborto es un derecho humano, es atención médica. Restringir el acceso a los anticonceptivos y al aborto es peligroso, viola nuestra privacidad como estadounidenses y deja a la gente sufriendo. Las personas tienen derecho a la autonomía corporal y deben poder elegir cuándo y cómo tener una familia.

## **Byron Donalds**



**Party:** Rep

**Biographical Info:**

**Campaign Website:** <https://donalds.house.gov/>

**Name your top two legislative priorities for this upcoming term.** -no response-

**What laws, if any, should be passed to combat misinformation that challenges people's trust in our democracy?** -no response-

**Do you support passage of federal voting rights legislation to provide national standards for voter registration and access to the ballot? Why or why not?** -no response-

**Do you see climate change as a threat to the country? Why or why not? What laws to address climate change would you support?** -no response-

**Do you support passage of a federal law codifying access to contraception and abortion? Why or why not?**  
-no response-

## **Jim Huff**



**Party:** Rep

**Biographical Info:**

**Campaign Website:** <https://www.jimhuff4congress.com/>

**Name your top two legislative priorities for this upcoming term.** -no response-

**What laws, if any, should be passed to combat misinformation that challenges people's trust in our democracy?** -no response-

**Do you support passage of federal voting rights legislation to provide national standards for voter registration and access to the ballot? Why or why not?** -no response-

**Do you see climate change as a threat to the country? Why or why not? What laws to address climate change would you support?** -no response-

**Do you support passage of a federal law codifying access to contraception and abortion? Why or why not?**  
-no response-

## **State Representatives**

Description: Serves 2-year terms with a limit of 4 consecutive terms. There are 120 House members. The 2021 salary is \$29,697 plus (travel and subsistence). Only requirement is to pass a balanced state budget.

## **Tiffany Esposito**



**Party:** Rep

**Biographical Info:**

**Campaign Website:** <https://tiffanyforfl.com/>

**Why are you running for this elected position? What are the two most compelling issues on which, if elected, you feel you can make a difference?** - no response -

**Insufficient housing is hurting Florida families and limiting Florida's economy. What state measures do you support to address the affordable housing crisis?** - no response -

**What legislative actions are necessary to improve voter access to the ballot and promote voter participation in elections?** - no response -

**What legislative action would you propose to protect Florida's environment and address climate change?**

- no response -

**Do you support passage of a state law codifying access to contraception and abortion? Why or why not?**

- no response -

**With respect to preemption and home rule, is the relationship and balance of power between state and local governments in Florida appropriately addressing local issues or how should it be redefined?**

- no response -

**Mass shootings grab headlines and spark calls for action. What legislation would you support to better protect people from gun violence?**

- no response -

**What are the two most important challenges facing Florida and, if elected, what actions will you take to address them within your first six months in office? (Your response may expand on a previous answer or relate to a new topic)**

- no response -

## **Ford O'Connell**



**Party:** Rep

**Biographical Info:**

**Campaign Website:** <https://fordforflorida.com/>

**Why are you running for this elected position? What are the two most compelling issues on which, if elected, you feel you can make a difference?**

- no response -

**Insufficient housing is hurting Florida families and limiting Florida's economy. What state measures do you support to address the affordable housing crisis?**

- no response -

**What legislative actions are necessary to improve voter access to the ballot and promote voter participation in elections?**

- no response -

**What legislative action would you propose to protect Florida's environment and address climate change?**

- no response -

**Do you support passage of a state law codifying access to contraception and abortion? Why or why not?**

- no response -

**With respect to preemption and home rule, is the relationship and balance of power between state and local governments in Florida appropriately addressing local issues or how should it be redefined?**

- no response -

**Mass shootings grab headlines and spark calls for action. What legislation would you support to better protect people from gun violence?**

- no response -

**What are the two most important challenges facing Florida and, if elected, what actions will you take to address them within your first six months in office? (Your response may expand on a previous answer or relate to a new topic)**

- no response -