Florida House of Representatives Priscilla Taylor
Candidate for Florida 20th

1) What is the one policy issue or area that you are most passionate about?

At this time, I am concerned about the attack on Voting Rights. I do feel that if we do not pass HR1 or H4 or both that the challenge to our democracy will be greatly affected. I see voting as a fundamental right which should be enhanced not depressed or oppressed.

2) Which organizations or leaders do you consult with for advice on policy? Are there any whose views particularly align with yours?

Usually, it depends upon the issue. I do rely on the Pastors for social issues that I feel require their involvement. That is why when I was a County Commissioner I came up with the idea to establish the Clergy Alliance. I felt then as I do now that their voice is strong in the community. If there is an education issue I contact someone from the school board or the CTA. I try to go to leaders or organizations who are involved in the issue so that I can make an objective and knowledge base decision.

3) Recent statistics from the FBI indicate that Jews are the victims of more than half of all religiously motivated hate crimes in the U.S. This uptick in antisemitism coincides with a robust debate about the role of policing in American society, with some arguing for abolishing or defunding the police, while others advocate for limited reforms or preserving the status quo. What is your position on police reform and — in light of that — how do you believe the government should address violent antisemitism?

I favor Police Reform. I do not feel that the police force as now structured is qualified to handle all areas of need that they might incur. Mental health and other specialized areas should be a part of policing. More negotiations rather than a shoot to kill mentality should be engaged. Antisemitism and any type of hate groups should be monitored and data gathered to ensure that the community and/or law enforcement is aware of their activities. Holding individuals accountable and being able to prosecute them for antisemitic crimes is essential.

Optional: Describe any efforts you’ve made to combat antisemitism within your own party, and how you’ve held your political allies accountable for any instances of antisemitism.
4) Do you believe that Israel’s role and location in the Middle East is a strategic asset to the United States? Why or why not.

Israel’s role and location is an asset to the United States. Israel is a democracy in an area whose beliefs are counter to the United States. I see Israel as a global leader in many areas which match or are of benefit to the U.S., such as technology and innovation.

5) On September 23, 2021, the United States House of Representatives voted 420-9, with two members voting present, to provide $1 billion to Israel to replenish the Iron Dome missile defense system. If you were in Congress, how would you have voted and why?

I would have voted in favor of providing the $1 billion. I see the Iron Dome as a defense mechanism which allows Israel to protect itself. In protecting itself it also provides protection for the U.S.

6) Should the U.S. increase, maintain or decrease the amount of foreign aid to Israel and other countries in the Middle East? Should the U.S. condition its foreign aid based on specific results?

America should increase if needed, foreign aid. I do feel that if the United States give foreign aid that specific results should be expected. We should ensure funding for peacebuilding and foreign assistance programs, especially those that protect human rights.

7) What is your view of the Abraham Accords, which has brought Arab countries including the United Arab Emirates, Bahrain, Morocco and Sudan into a warm peace with Israel? Do you believe there will be more peace in the Middle East? If so, what will it take?

I believe in peace. The Abraham Accords provided an opportunity to normalize ties and to set aside hostilities. I do see more peace in the Middle East. As society continue to develop I see a major push for more protection and desire for normalization.
8) Do you support or oppose a return to the 2015 nuclear deal with Iran? In your view, what is the role of 'leverage' in these negotiations and is the U.S. using its leverage effectively?

I support the United States having a stronger nuclear deal with Iran. Until there is an agreement the United States should continue sanctions.

9) Government entities should not have to do business with entities that engage in immoral practices or espouse values that are inconsistent with society's

Strongly agree | Agree | Neutral | Disagree | Strongly Disagree | Other

10) I support public efforts to divest from companies that engage in BDS

Strongly agree | Agree | Neutral | Disagree | Strongly Disagree | Other

11) Anti-Zionism is a form of antisemitism

Strongly agree | Agree | Neutral | Disagree | Strongly Disagree | Other

12) The United States should use all means available to prevent Iran from obtaining a nuclear weapon

Strongly agree | Agree | Neutral | Disagree | Strongly Disagree | Other