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CHARLES M. BLOW

Issues & Solutions — Maxwell Frost for Congress - Climate  
Crisis

<https://www.frostforcongress.com/issues>

10/31 James Clyburn, Maxwell Alejandro Frost Say Democrats  
Can't Write Florida Off

Inbox

<https://floridapolitics.com/archives/567661-james-clyburn-maxwell-alejandro-frost-say-democrats-cant-write-florida-off/>

[James Clyburn, Maxwell Alejandro Frost say Democrats can't write Florida off](#)

10/31 James Clyburn to Stump with Maxwell Frost

<https://floridapolitics.com/archives/567485-james-clyburn-to-stump-in-orlando-with-maxwell-alejandro-frost/>

[James Clyburn to stump in Orlando with Maxwell Alejandro Frost](#)

10/19 Maxwell Frost, Gen Z - Barron's

<https://www.barrons.com/news/maxwell-frost-the-us-democrat-aiming-to-bring-gen-z-to-congress-01666231208> Maxwell Frost, The US Democrat Aiming To Bring Gen Z To Congress

**Maxwell Frost, The US Democrat Aiming To Bring Gen Z To Congress**

Léa DAUPLE

In the bustle of Orlando's Pride March, Maxwell Frost is finalizing preparations for a concert on a truck bed --...

11/1 Gen Z Candidates Raising Funds for 2022 - Teen Vogue  
Inbox

<https://www.teenvogue.com/story/gen-z-candidates-fundraising>

<https://www.teenvogue.com/story/gen-z-candidates-fundraising> How Gen Z Candidates Deal With the Hardest Part of Campaigning

10/20/22 Lin-Manuel Miranda endorses Sen. Annette Taddeo [and Frost, among others]

<https://www.local10.com/vote-2022/2022/10/20/lin-manuel-miranda-endorses-florida-sen-annette-taddeo-in-coral-gables/>

Oct. 21 \*\* Maxwell Frost Isn't Running Just To Be The First Gen Zer In Congress | HuffPost

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[https://www.huffpost.com/entry/maxwell-frost-gen-z-midterm-elec\\_n\\_63501334e4b0b7f89f5d055d](https://www.huffpost.com/entry/maxwell-frost-gen-z-midterm-elec_n_63501334e4b0b7f89f5d055d)

Sept. 12 \* How Activist Maxwell Frost, 25, Is Forging His Own Path to Congress

<https://people.com/politics/activist-maxwell-frost-forging-own-path-to-congress/>

Oct. 8 \* To the beat of his own drums: Maxwell Frost's passion for music, social change drives campaign | Life | NSM.today

Inbox

[http://www.nicholsonstudentmedia.com/life/to-the-beat-of-his-own-drums-maxwell-frost-s-passion-for-music-social-change/article\\_954b27ec-3140-11ed-a664-4f4129f38fca.html](http://www.nicholsonstudentmedia.com/life/to-the-beat-of-his-own-drums-maxwell-frost-s-passion-for-music-social-change/article_954b27ec-3140-11ed-a664-4f4129f38fca.html)

11/1 Congressional Hispanic Caucus rolling out digital ads [for Maxwell Frost]

<https://www.politico.com/minutes/congress/11-1-2022/another-bold-investment/>

**The Congressional Hispanic Caucus' campaign arm is rolling out digital ads in two competitive districts in the last days of the election.**

The ads feature Maxwell Frost, a Black Cuban Gen Z candidate running in Florida's 10th congressional district.

**The details:** The ads are set to run in two competitive districts, Texas' 15th and New Mexico's 2nd, up until Election Day, a

spokesperson told POLITICO, with one [spoken in English](#), [another in Spanish](#).

The English ad is a seven-minute interview with Frost himself, with the candidate laying out Democratic legislative priorities such as abortion and immigration and calling out Republican disinformation.

- [SIGN IN](#)

## Maxwell Frost Thinks the U.S. Is Ready for Gen Z

### Politicians

Maxwell Frost, USA

Next Generations Leaders: Maxwell Frost

BY [CHARLOTTE ALTER](#)

OCTOBER 13, 2022 6:00 AM EDT

**M**axwell Frost thanks his Uber driver and hustles up the steps of the Cannon building on Capitol Hill. Rushing through security, he thinks he passes [Madison Cawthorn](#) on his way to meet with Representative [Alexandria Ocasio-Cortez](#). The moment mirrors his own journey: a few months ago, Frost was an Uber driver; now, he's on track to eclipse Cawthorn and Ocasio Cortez as the youngest member of Congress.

“It still hasn't fully hit,” he says. “It hits a little bit more every day.”

Frost, who in August won the Democratic nomination in Florida's 10th district, a safe Democratic seat, is a 25-year-old [March for Our Lives organizer](#) who will likely be the first solidly Gen Z member of Congress (Cawthorn, the controversial North Carolina Republican who lost his nomination, was born in 1995, on the cusp between millennials and Gen Z.) In the weeks since he won his primary, Frost has heard from everyone from Speaker [Nancy - Pelosi](#), who congratulated him on his win, to Senator [Bernie Sanders](#), who advised him not to ignore constituent services.

Devin Christopher for TIME

Frost, an Afro-Cuban who was adopted at birth by a teacher and a musician, says he plans to focus on issues like student debt, gun violence, climate change, and racial and economic justice, all areas where his position is informed by his own experience. He remembers being a young Black boy in Florida when [Trayvon Martin was killed](#); going through active-shooter drills at school and organizing with March for Our Lives; and [watching the Occupy Wall Street protests on TV](#).

“We look at everything that’s happened over the past two decades and have to remember that there’s a whole generation growing up during all of it, learning about the world, learning who they are, learning what they want to do,” he says.

“Growing up through that really changes the way you see the world and the way the world sees you.”

Frost knows that young people aren't the only ones who care about issues like gun violence and climate change, but he believes that his youth gives him an impatience to make

change that his elders lack. He plans to immediately sign on to bills for universal background checks and the Freedom to Vote Act, and to use his platform to apply public pressure to some of his future colleagues. “I think the biggest generational divide I see isn’t necessarily the issues—it’s the urgency of these things,” he says. “How quickly do they get done?”

Since his win, he’s been flooded with messages from supporters inspired by the idea of generational change in Congress. But Frost thinks real change is bigger than him alone. “I’m not a savior, at all,” he says. “It needs to be all of us working together to build the world that we want to build, to get the bold transformational change we need.”

**WRITE TO CHARLOTTE ALTER**  
**AT [CHARLOTTE.ALTER@TIME.COM](mailto:CHARLOTTE.ALTER@TIME.COM)**

<https://www.washingtonpost.com/politics/2022/09/03/maxwell-frost-congress-generation/>

Maxwell Alejandro Frost



was a relatively unknown name outside of his hometown before last month, when he won a 10-way Democratic primary against some rivals who had served in office before he was born. He has no political experience and no college degree, but interest in his candidacy — and his personal story — has skyrocketed as pundits openly wonder whether his perspective is a necessary injection of energy for a party that remains largely under the leadership of octogenarians.

If elected in November, Frost will become the first member of Congress to hail from Generation Z, the term bestowed upon those born after 1996. Like many in his generation, Frost is a good multitasker, keeping up with conversation without missing a beat while often texting with one hand as he holds a red Solo cup in the other.

But unlike many in his generation, he admits not being great at TikTok, which he barely used in his campaign. And he does not shy away from his Southern Baptist faith, talking about it openly as a motivator for him politically, though he understands “the skepticism around organized religion.

Maxwell Frost, one of the first Gen Z candidates for Congress, has won his primary

August 23, 2022 8:59 PM ET

Progressive activist Maxwell Frost, one of the first members of Generation Z to run for Congress, has won his Democratic primary, according to a race call by The Associated Press.

Frost's win nearly secures his path to Congress since the Orlando-based seat is considered a solidly Democratic district. Frost will face off against Republican Calvin Wimbish in November.

"Today's election is proof that Central Florida's working families want representation that has the courage to ask for more," Frost said in a statement. "I share this victory with the nurses, forklift drivers, teachers, caregivers, social workers, farmers, union organizers, cashiers, and other members of this vibrant community who supported this campaign."

At 25 years old, Frost just qualifies for the age requirement to serve in the U.S. House. The 2022 midterms mark the first election where members of Generation Z can run for congressional office. The [Pew Research Center](#) considers anyone born between 1997 and 2012 to be Gen Z.

First Gen Z Candidates Run For The House; Many Can't Get Ballots In Their Language

Frost campaigned on key progressive issues, including Medicare for All, a Green New Deal, student debt cancelation and an end to gun violence. He first became involved in political organizing in 2012 while in high school following the mass shooting in Newtown, Conn. He's also [spoken publicly](#) about surviving a separate incident of gun violence.

"Our generation has been born into a lot of traumas and a lot of civil unrest around people being frustrated with things. And I think because of that, our generation naturally thinks about things in a bit of a different way," Frost [told NPR](#).

The former March for Our Lives national organizing director and ACLU activist beat out a crowded field of nine other competitors, including state Sen. Randolph Bracy and former Florida Reps. Corrine Brown and Alan Grayson.

Frost also topped his competitors in [fundraising](#) while racking up key national endorsements from progressive leaders, including Vermont Sen. Bernie Sanders and Massachusetts Sen. Elizabeth Warren.



In an [interview with NPR](#), Frost acknowledged that age plays a symbolic role in his campaign.

"Yes we march, yes we engage in mutual aid, yes we engage on social media, and now we're running for office because we believe that we are prepared to be in the rooms and to be the voice for our communities and we can do that and young people should be allowed," he said.

## [ELECTION](#) | [ALACHUA](#)

### **Voters ask for climate action after Hurricane Ian**

*Climate change could have intensified Ian, experts say*

By [Fernando Figueroa](#) and [Heather Bushman](#)

October 10, 2022 | 8:00am EDT

Vance Herbener's hometown of Port Charlotte was in the path of Hurricane Ian's Sept. 29 sweep of Southwest Florida.

The 21-year-old UF environmental science senior and external vice president of the UF Environmental Science Alliance saw the community, which is about 40 minutes north of Fort Myers, left in shambles. It was leveled mostly by wind damage that left entire buildings as nothing more than debris drifting through the flooded streets.

The sight isn't something Herbener will soon forget, he said.

"It's heartbreaking," he said. "I grew up there."

The storm, one of the [fourth-strongest to ever hit the state](#) along with Hurricane Charley in 2004, is just one sign of a shifting Florida climate. As sea levels rise and temperatures climb, the effects of climate change continue to become evident across the state.

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<https://www.advocate.com/voices/2022/8/29/gen-z-candidate-maxwell-frost-partner-lgbtq-community>

<https://www.lx.com/politics/meet-maxwell-frost-the-florida-candidate-who-could-become-the-first-gen-z-member-of-congress/57536/>

<https://floridapolitics.com/archives/549368-exactly-who-we-need-katherine-clark-ayanna-pressley-endorse-maxwell-frost-for-cd-10/>

<https://ca.sports.yahoo.com/news/dont-count-us-out-maxwell-frost-could-be-the-first-gen-z-member-of-congress-171233818.html>

<https://www.lx.com/politics/meet-maxwell-frost-the-florida-candidate-who-could-become-the-first-gen-z-member-of-congress/57536/>

<https://www.lx.com/politics/meet-maxwell-frost-the-florida-candidate-who-could-become-the-first-gen-z-member-of-congress/57536/>

## 'Don't count us out': Maxwell Frost could be the 1st Gen Z member of Congress

### **Jayla Whitfield-Anderson**

·National Reporter and Producer

August 31, 2022 · 5 min read

At 25 years old, [Maxwell Alejandro Frost](#) is hoping to make history as the first Generation Z member of Congress and represent Florida's 10th Congressional District in the House.

After [winning the Democratic primary](#) on Aug. 23, Frost is running against [Republican Calvin Wimbish](#), and the winner will succeed Rep. Val Demings, [who's vying for a Senate seat](#). According to [FiveThirtyEight's election simulation model](#), it's "very likely" that Frost will win in November.

"My mom came here from Cuba when she was young with nothing. And now her son is going to go to Congress," Frost told Yahoo News.

Running for Congress was not at the top of the Orlando native's career aspirations until supporters asked him to get on the ballot. "I was actually asked to run by organizers that I protested with during the [Black Lives Matter](#) uprising [after the death of George Floyd in 2020]."

At first, Frost was a little skeptical about running for office, he said. He was adopted at a young age, but a phone conversation with his biological mother quickly changed his perspective on running for the seat.

"Learning about our life, learning about the struggles she went through, learning about the fact that she had me at one of the

most vulnerable points in her life,” Frost told Yahoo News. “I hung up the phone, and I said I need to run for Congress for people like my biological mother, for people like my mother, for people like my father, for my community, for the place that I was born and raised.”

It’s no secret that Florida, led by Republican firebrand Gov. Ron DeSantis, is prone to political controversy. Frost said he sees a need for bold progressive leadership there. Recently the Sunshine State has been in the news, “from what’s going on with [our governor](#) to, you know, what happened with our [former president](#). So we have a lot of work to do here in this state,” he explained.

After Frost decided to run for office, he quit his job and worked as an Uber driver to stay afloat financially. “I was the national organizing director of [March for Our Lives](#),” he said. “As a candidate, I don’t get paid. So I needed money to pay for my food and pay for my bills. So I went pretty hard [as an Uber driver] for a month and a half to make enough money to sustain me till the end. So I could focus on the campaign.”

<https://ca.sports.yahoo.com/news/dont-count-us-out-maxwell-frost-could-be-the-first-gen-z-member-of-congress-171233818.html>

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Aug 26, 2022, 11:04am EDT

After earning the Democratic Party’s [nomination in Florida’s blue 10th Congressional District](#), 25-year-old Maxwell Frost is likely to win the Orlando-area congressional seat in November, which would make him the first Gen Z member of U.S. Congress.

Frost, who campaigned on a platform of civil rights, Medicare-for-all and marijuana legalization, was born in 1997, the earliest birth year for the generation of today's teens and twenty-somethings, Gen Z, [according to Pew Research Center](#). At 25, he has reached the minimum age to be able to hold congressional office.

## **BUSINESS**

### **The Generational Divide In U.S. Congress As Gen Z Enters The Scene [Infographic]**

**Katharina Buchholz**

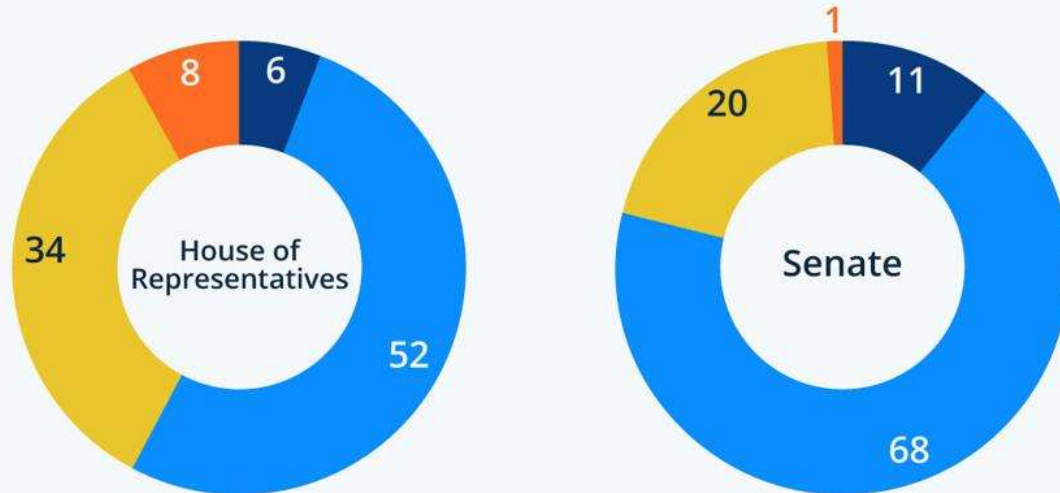
Contributor

*I am a Statista data journalist using charts to explain news topics.*

# The Generational Divide In U.S. Congress

Members of the 117th U.S. Congress  
by generation (in percent)

- Silent Generation (1928-45)
- Baby Boomers (1946-64)
- Gen X (1965-80)
- Millennials (1981-96)



As of Aug 25, 2022. Four seats in the House currently vacant.  
Sources: Pew Research Center, Fiscalnote, Statista Research



Forbes **statista**

This chart shows the members of the 117th U.S. Congress by generation (in percent)

<https://www.frostforcongress.com/issues>

Frost for Congress

**Housing affordability**

There is a housing crisis in our nation, and in Central Florida in particular. When adjusting for wages, the greater Orlando area is the fifth least affordable in the country for housing. Every day, the burden of excessive rent and housing costs rob Central Floridians of the financial stability they need to pay down debt, start businesses, form families, plan for the future, and live comfortable lives. For us to fully realize housing as a human right, we must:

**Institute national tenant protections, including rent stabilization, restricting evictions without cause, and a tenant right to counsel:**

- I will support legislation like the “A Place to Prosper Act,” which would provide a variety of tenant protections, including a cap on annual rent increases at 3% or the national level of inflation.
- We must amend the 1968 Fair Housing Act by prohibiting landlords from discrimination based on legal sources of income, including housing vouchers and other federal assistance.
- Every American deserves a right to counsel in eviction proceedings, just as they do in criminal proceedings. According to the National Coalition for a Civil Right to Counsel, only 3% of tenants have legal representation in eviction proceedings, whereas 81% of landlords have legal representation. An equitable system must ensure that tenants have full access to the legal rights to which they are entitled.

**Massively increase funding for public housing and social housing in the US to spur the construction of mixed-income, dense, beautiful housing in our cities**

- I will support legislation like the “Homes For All Act,” which would direct investment for 12 million new affordable housing units over ten years, with a requirement that these homes remain permanently affordable.
- Residents should have access to free wrap-around services, like healthcare, childcare, and employment assistance.
- I will also push our federal agencies to explore alternate models for public housing, such as mixed-income social housing models that have been successful in parts of Europe, and have been explored for implementation in the United States as outlined by organizations like the People’s Policy Project.

**Condition federal grants on reforms to exclusionary zoning laws that local governments have in place**

- I will support legislation like the “Housing, Opportunity, Mobility, and Equity (HOME) Act,” which would require recipients of Community Development Block Grants to end exclusionary zoning laws in their jurisdictions.
- Too often, local governments use these outdated laws—with nefarious and often racist histories—to keep certain types of housing and people out of their neighborhoods.
- In Greater Orlando, our population has increased 1.5x as fast as the number of housing units over the past decade, leading to a severe housing shortage and affordability crisis.
- Artificial constraints on housing in the form of zoning laws, parking requirements, and lot sizes must be undone for our communities to find housing abundance.



For regions that undo their exclusionary zoning practices, I explore the creation of grant-funded programs that invest in local community-builders who can provide much-needed “missing middle” housing in our co

## **25-year-old Maxwell Frost could become first member of Gen Z elected to Congress after Florida primary win** LI COHEN

**UPDATED ON: AUGUST 25, 2022 / 6:51 AM / CBS NEWS**

A 25-year-old Florida man with Cuban roots running on a platform of more gun laws, better health care and an improved focus on environmental justice might be headed to Congress. CBS News projects that Maxwell Frost, who ran for a House seat in Florida's 10th Congressional District, dominated a crowded Democratic primary with more than 34% of the votes.

He's set to run against Republican Calvin Wimbish in the November election, in a district that is considered a Democratic stronghold. If he heads to Washington in January to take the seat vacated by Val Demings, he would be the first member of Gen Z to become a member of Congress. According to Politico, he would also be the only Afro-Cubano in Congress.

Politico, which also reports he's never held office before and has yet to finish college, spoke to Frost ahead of Tuesday's election about why he got into politics and what he hopes to accomplish.

"I quit my job to do this. I drive Uber to pay my bills. It's a sacrifice, to be honest," Frost told the publication. "But I'm doing it because I can't imagine myself not doing anything but fixing the problems we have right now."

Frost, whose grandmother came to Florida from Cuba "with only a suitcase and no money" during the 1960s Freedom Flights, according to his website, ran on a progressive platform focused on expanding Medicare, ending gun violence, improving housing affordability, sustainable and affordable transit, environmental justice and the climate crisis. He also promised to focus on the nation's pandemic preparedness by pushing for better and more affordable vaccines, tests and prevention strategies.

### [WATCH MORE WH officials hold the daily press briefing](#)

"We won because of our message: Love. That no matter who you are, you deserve healthcare, a livable wage, and to live free from gun violence," Frost tweeted on Tuesday night. "We made history tonight. Thank you so much, Orlando."

Frost won with the support of significant progressive figures including Sen. Bernie Sanders, whom he used to work for, and Sen. Elizabeth Warren, CBS News' Caitlin Huey-Burns said Tuesday.

"We've been talking a lot about these moderates winning against progressives. This is kind of a flip of that dynamic, and also going to make history, likely," she said.

Florida, though a swing state, has recently leaned much more red than blue. Frost told Huey-Burns on Wednesday that a lot of that has to do with the political party's messaging.

"We need messaging that's inclusive of everyone. Our campaign isn't about blue versus red or Democrats versus Republicans," he said. "It's about the people versus the problem. We talk about love a lot on this campaign – the fact that if you love somebody, you want them to have health care, you want to live in a

community free of gun violence, you want them to have a clean environment and all the things they need to live their lives with their families."

When asked about the current administration, Frost says that President Biden is "doing a good job." He noted the president's action on Wednesday to cancel up to \$20,000 of loan debt for students in the U.S. but said "we need more."

"A lot of folks look at the student loan debt problem and blame young people. They say we're living beyond our means," Frost said. "But we know the truth: it's not that. It's not that we're living beyond our means, it's that we've been denied the means to live."

"I'm excited to go to D.C. and fight with him and the democrats for even more and fight for the world that we deserve and the world that we want."

His win was celebrated by fellow progressives of his generation, with many heralding it as a collective victory.

"Florida just did with [sic] almost everybody in the establishment thought impossible," gun law activist and Parkland shooting survivor David Hogg tweeted. "Elect Maxwell Frost a 25-year-old progressive activist to congress. Never underestimate the power of pissed off young people."

A video of Frost's election watch party shows him surrounded by and celebrating with dozens of other young adults.

Frost isn't the only one of his generation aiming for Capitol Hill. According to the nonpartisan and nonprofit political finance tracking group Open Secrets, there are at least two other Gen Z'ers running in 2022: New Hampshire state representative Tim Baxter and Karoline Leavitt are fighting to win the Republican

primary for New Hampshire's 1st Congressional District. Raymond Reed also ran for Congress in Missouri's 2nd Congressional District earlier this month, but did not make it through the primary.

Frost told CBS News that the young adults of his generation running for office this election cycle are doing so because they are just now getting old enough to be part of the political process "in a real way."

"I remember being in elementary school, looking at the news and seeing a bunch of people sleeping outside of Wall Street and hearing something about 'wealth and equality,' and then I'd grow up more and go through more shooting drills than I did fire drills" he said. "...And the reason Gen Z is getting involved so young and early is because we see the world for how it is right now and the question we're asking is, 'Why haven't these problems been solved?'"

His generation is also known for being "a bit stubborn," he said, but they are using that to their advantage.

"Now we're being stubborn about the world we want to live in," he said. "We want a world where our kids can thrive, and now we're going to vote, we're going to run for office, we're going to do what needs to be done to be sure that our voices are heard."

Maxwell Frost has big dreams for his band, Seguro Que Sí, and one of them is about to become a reality on the streets of the nation's capital.

Maxwell, 15, and nine other musicians between the ages of 15 and 17 are heading to Washington today to take part in Monday's Inaugural Parade for President Barack Obama. They're all students at the Osceola County School for the Arts in Kissimmee.

Former ACLU staffer and March For Our Lives activist Maxwell Frost of Orlando is the latest candidate to announce a bid to succeed Val Demings in her western Orange County congressional district next year.

"When I'm elected to Congress, I'll be among the first members of my generation, Generation Z," said Frost, 24, who would meet the constitutional age requirement of 25 by the time the term would start in 2023. "I am an Afro-Cuban, born and raised in the district and someone who has been doing work on the ground for a while."