

# Our Revolution Baltimore City/County

## *Delegate and State Senate Endorsement Questionnaire*

Name: **Lawrence Williams**

Desired political office: **Maryland State Senate**

District Number: **10**

Website: **www.votewilliamsd10.org**

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1. How does your experience, along with your life experiences, qualify you for this position?

**State Senate is a position that requires you to understand that your role is to serve the community. It is a service position helping educate others for the wellbeing of the community. For the past 32 years I have worked in education in a variety of roles. I started as a teacher and then moved on the Dean, Assistant Principal, Principal, and currently I am the Superintendent Designee of Student Conduct & Engagement for Howard County Public School. For more than 20 years I have invested time connecting with students engaging, teaching job skills, and brokering relationships with community leaders.**

2. What will be the principles or values that guide your public service?

**My standards, values and morals are a strong compass for me. Making decision and removing my own personal bias is a standard I live by and would serve as a benefit in this role.**

3. Do you identify as a progressive candidate? If so, what specifically makes you a progressive candidate for this political office?

**I am a visionary and believe in inclusivity when making decisions. I am a result data driven individual.**

**Climate Change/Green New Deal**

4. Do you acknowledge the existence of climate change and the sense of urgency to address this issue on state and local levels?

**Yes, I do.**

5. What is your position regarding a Green New Deal at the state level?

**I would support what would secure that generations can enjoy clean air, water climate and community resilience. Healthy food access and sustainable environment.**

6. In the previous legislative session, House Bill 33, known as the Climate Crisis and Education Act, was not passed. If this bill or a similar bill is introduced in the next legislative session, what is your position?

**I would support a bill that continues to support climate awareness and change.**

7. What is your position regarding the electrification of renovated buildings as well as newly constructed buildings in Maryland?

**I am in favor**

8. How would you vote on the Climate Solutions Act?

**I would support it.**

9. How would you vote on the Environment Human Rights Amendment?

**I would support it.**

### **Health Care**

10. What is your position regarding a single-payer system (such as Medicare for All) at the state level?

**It is important that everyone in the State of Maryland have access to healthcare. The bigger concern is will doctors that typically not accept Medicare participate in a single-payer system.**

11. Would you vote for paid sick leave?

**Yes, I would.**

### **Police Reform**

12. Johns Hopkins University (JHU) is moving forward with establishing a private university-based police department. What is your position regarding the establishment of a private university-based police department at JHU?

**I am in total support if they are provided education, training, and participate in community engagement.**

13. What proposed legislation or action will you take to address police reform on a state and local level?

**I would introduce legislation that includes education, training and relationship building in the community.**

14. Would you vote to end debtor prisoners?

**Yes, I would support this?**

### **Drug Policy Reform/Legalization of Marijuana**

15. What is your position regarding the decriminalization of marijuana possession and use in Maryland?

**I am in favor of marijuana for medical use and my position is to decriminalize up to a certain amount/limit.**

16. What is your position regarding the legalization of marijuana for recreational use in Maryland?

**With proper limits, education and training, marijuana legalization would be beneficial.**

17. What is your position regarding the decriminalization of psilocybin and legalization for therapeutic use in Maryland?

**My position is that I am against this type of decriminalization because of its possible mental effect that a user may have. Therefore, I don't agree it should be legalized.**

### **Immigrant Rights**

18. In the previous legislative session, House Bill 0016, known as the Dignity Not Detention Act, was vetoed by Gov. Hogan. If this bill is reintroduced in the upcoming legislative session, what is your position?

**I would support the reintroduction of this bill.**

19. According to the 2010 US Census, Asian-Americans make up 6.1% of Maryland's population. Since the Covid-19 pandemic, there has been an increase in hate crimes nationwide and locally against Asian-Americans. What proposed legislation and action will you take to protect these individuals on a state and local level?

**Training and education in the community is key.**

20. In recent months, Maryland has become a 'welcome state' in supporting the transition of refugees arriving from Afghanistan. What proposed legislation and action will you take in meeting the immediate needs of Afghan refugees on a state and local level?

**I would propose supporting this legislation that would make transitions easier for all nationalities and races who are in need of refuge regardless of country.**

#### **Public Transit**

21. In 2018, Gov. Hogan canceled the Red Line. Being that Maryland will have a new governor in 2022, there may be an effort to revive legislation for the Red Line. What is your position regarding the Red Line as a viable transit project in Baltimore?

**I would be in support of this opportunity. It will bring revenue and jobs.**

22. In a 2021 study conducted by the Johns Hopkins Bloomberg School of Public Health and the Baltimore Transit Equity Coalition, it showed racial disparities in Baltimore's transit system. What proposed legislation and specific action will you take to address this issue?

I would continue to write legislation to ensure all races are represented in equal percentage.

#### **Housing**

23. In August 2021, Maryland's moratorium on residential eviction expired. What proposed legislation or action will you take to address the issues related to tenants who have fallen behind in paying rent?

**I would propose a program that could assist on a short-term basis where the tenant can begin to find the means to begin to pay rent and the property owner is able to collect a portion of the rent from government assistance. .**

#### **Consumer Rights**

24. How would you vote on auto insurance prices not being tied to zip codes?

**Insurance rates should primarily be based on driving experience, driving record and value of the car. I would vote not to tie rates to zip codes.**