

2022 MGA candidate questionnaire

Our Revolution Howard County - state delegate & senate endorsement requests

Name *

Dr. Chao Wu

Campaign Website

www.chaowu.org

Why are you running for state legislature? What have you done in recent years to benefit your district (e.g. civic engagement, testimony, activism, etc.)?

Current School Board Member of Howard County

What actions would your office take on any of OR's 6 platform issues? <https://ourrev.us/Platform2022>

Education, climate change, transportation and infrastructure

Do you support a bill for public campaign financing? If not, why not? Are you accepting campaign contributions from corporate interests, such as property developers or their associates?

yes. I am NOT accepting campaign contributions from corporate interests, such as property developers or their associates.

Please identify a few serious challenges facing Maryland that your office would address over the next two years. What steps would you take, what obstacles do you anticipate, and how can we overcome them?

funding for public education, climate change.

What changes would you make to state taxes and/or constitutional limits for county taxes?

We should increase tax on super wealthy people. However, I am against increase county tax limit.

What would you do to make housing more affordable for low-income residents?

From a start, we need pass law to have 15% or even more affordable housing in new constructions. We need remove pay-in-lieu approach.

How would you improve transportation and reduce traffic congestion in an equitable and sustainable manner? What are your views on public-private partnerships in transportation, such as variably-priced toll lanes?

We need to adapt technologies (especially autonomous driving) into our transportation. We need to understand why traffic congestion happening and how to fix it. I am supporting public-private partnerships.

How would you increase police accountability, decrease racial disparities in policing, and maintain public safety? Do you support full LEOBR repeal?

We need community policing. Another point is that local leadership needs to be accountable for their own district safety. Otherwise, they should be removed from the leadership position or the state should take it over if they could not manage themselves. I do not support full LEOBR repeal. Police is a special career, especially with the second amendment and many, many illegal guns/weapons on the street.

How would you engage racially and economically marginalized communities to address inequity in our society? How would you ensure more impacted communities have a voice in state government?

I am the one who are in the racially marginalized communities. The basics for engagement is to put ourselves in their shoes and understand what is happening and how we can address the problems. By helping the community little by little and addressing problems one by one, they will see the progress and motive themselves for the changes within. That is the ultimate power.

What should state government do to promote sustainable and equitable economic growth and job opportunities?

creating special tax code, providing seeding money and incentives in these areas to lead the change.

What should Maryland do to improve healthcare beyond what the federal government does, in the short-run and long-run?

We should make healthcare universal for every family, at different levels. The state government should at least provide an insurance plan which puts a cap on how much a family could afford. We should not bankrupt a family because of medical emergency. However, health and health care is a family decision too where families should be held accountable for their own decisions too. It's a partnership here.

Do you support changes to state voting methods, such as ranked choice, approval voting, or proportional representation?

no opinion yet. open to changes.

What are your top priorities to address environmental justice, sustainability, and nature conservation?

environmental sustainability is number one, where uncontrolled developments without infrastructure support, for example, watershed management is a big problem in Howard County. Climate change due to ever increasing energy needs and consumption is another problem.

What changes would you make to state minimum wage law, including tipped and agricultural workers?

minimum wage should be adjusted automatically with inflation yearly.

Would you support legislation to enable public workers to have the right to form a union and bargain collectively for contracts statewide?

no opinion yet. need to understand more pros/cons.

How would you change cannabis policy, including retail sales, distribution, and past criminal convictions?

we need be careful with sales and distribution, especially close to schools and young people.

Do you support legislation to require special elections instead of appointments for vacancies in elective offices?

depends on the length of the remaining terms. I am supporting legislation on this and make it clearer.

What should the state do regarding insurrectionists and conspirators against our democracy?

denounce them publicly, prosecute them according to our law and educate our youth about the danger of losing democracy.

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