



2022 Endorsement Questionnaire – Maryland General Assembly
[All Responses Will be Made Public]

1. How do your life and work experience qualify you for this position?
 - a. I have worked on a wide variety of campaigns, including as one of the Bernie Sanders for Maryland's Steering Committee members and as a DNC Delegate for Bernie. I have written legislation for the state, I
2. Do you identify as a progressive candidate? If so, what specifically makes you a progressive candidate for this political office? Can you name three areas where enacting progressive legislation will make a large difference. Please elaborate.
 - a. Yes. My track record, my endorsements, my financing all show this. 3 areas of focus for progressive legislation are healthcare, housing, and transportation. I support fare free transit, Medicare and Medicaid expansion, and social housing.
3. Where are you getting money for your campaign?
 - a. Do you accept PAC money and if yes, which PACs have contributed to you? NO
 - b. Do you accept money from developers, lobbyists or liquor store owners? NO
4. Twenty five states hold special elections to fill vacancies in their state legislatures. Maryland does not. Maryland's appointment process provides the advantage of incumbency to appointed members and has resulted in thirty percent of the current Senate and twenty-five percent of the current House having started their legislative careers as appointees. Will you support a constitutional amendment bill that eliminates the recommendation by the Central Committee and the appointment by the Governor to fill a vacancy in the General Assembly and replaces it with a special election?
 - a. Yes I will. As a member of the Central Committee until the appointment process changes, I will at least give a fair vote on any appointments and vote based on qualifications and community service, not based on who I'm told to support.

5. Do you support a public financing system for delegates and senators? Can you offer a reason why bills in the General Assembly for this program have not moved? What can the community do and what can rank and file General Assembly members do to advance a public financing system?
 - a. Yes. The bills have not moved as it against existing financial and political interests. The community and members can continue to pressure legislators who are against public financing, and continue informing their neighbors.

6. Do you support expanding the gubernatorial small-donor public financing system to the Comptroller and AG races?
 - a. Yes.

7. State enabling legislation currently permits public financing to be implemented for county executive and council races in every county. Do you support expanding this enabling legislation to cover all local races? A bill to expand enabling legislation has been in the House for two years with no opposition and no movement. Please comment.
 - a. Yes, I support this.

8. Our Renewable Portfolio Standard (RPS) provides subsidies paid by Maryland rate payers to many dirty technologies – trash incineration, for example – under the guise that they are renewable. Environmental groups and activists have tried to clean up the RPS for the last decade and have still not succeeded largely due to the power of lobbyists and the leadership in the General Assembly and the fragmentation of environmental groups. What are your thoughts on how we cut through this quagmire and what hope do you think we have to creating the real changes we need to address global warming? Do you support the language in HB 11 introduced in 2022.
 - a. Yes! Burning wood pulp and trash harms our air quality tremendously. I also support a Green New Deal to provide public power to state residents.

9. Do you support single-payer health care?
If elected,
 - a. will you lobby our elected members in Congress to support single-payer healthcare bill? Yes.
 - b. commit to ask for a legislative study or create an executive agency study of the feasibility of implementing single-payer health coverage in Maryland? Yes.
 - c. Connecticut has shown that when a state administers Medicaid, administrative costs are slashed. Will you join us in asking the Governor to request a federal CMS waiver to remove MCOs from our Medicaid program and have the State administer the program? Yes!

10. In 2021, members of the public were able to submit written testimony on bills online and provide oral testimony on bills remotely. Prior to 2021, members of the public had to travel to Annapolis, sign up an hour or two before the hearing, submit 40 copies of

written testimony and wait for hours to speak for a couple of minutes at a committee hearing. Obviously, most members of the working public never attempted this feat but the General Assembly was chock filled with paid lobbyists. After having established the technological feasibility of remote oral testimony, the General Assembly took it away in 2022 and permitted only in-person oral testimony despite the protests of over 100 organizations. Do you support this removal of public access? What does this say to you about how the General Assembly is run and how can it be changed? I support having the easiest possible means of public input. One major change I support is having the voting records of incumbents more accessible to the public.