



League of Women Voters® of Anne Arundel County, MD

VOTERS' GUIDE **2016 GENERAL ELECTION**

Tuesday, November 8, 2016 Polls Open 7 AM / Close 8 PM

Verify current voter registration:

[voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/
VoterSearch](http://voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/VoterSearch)

**Deadline to register or change
party affiliation online:***

Tuesday, October 18, 9 PM

Early voting dates:

October 27 - November 3,
8 AM - 8 PM

Deadline to request absentee ballot:

Mailed to you: Tuesday, November 1

Downloaded: Friday, November 4

In person: Tuesday, November 8

Contact County Board of Elections:

(410) 222-6600

6740 Baymeadow Drive,

Glen Burnie, MD 21060

elections@aacounty.org

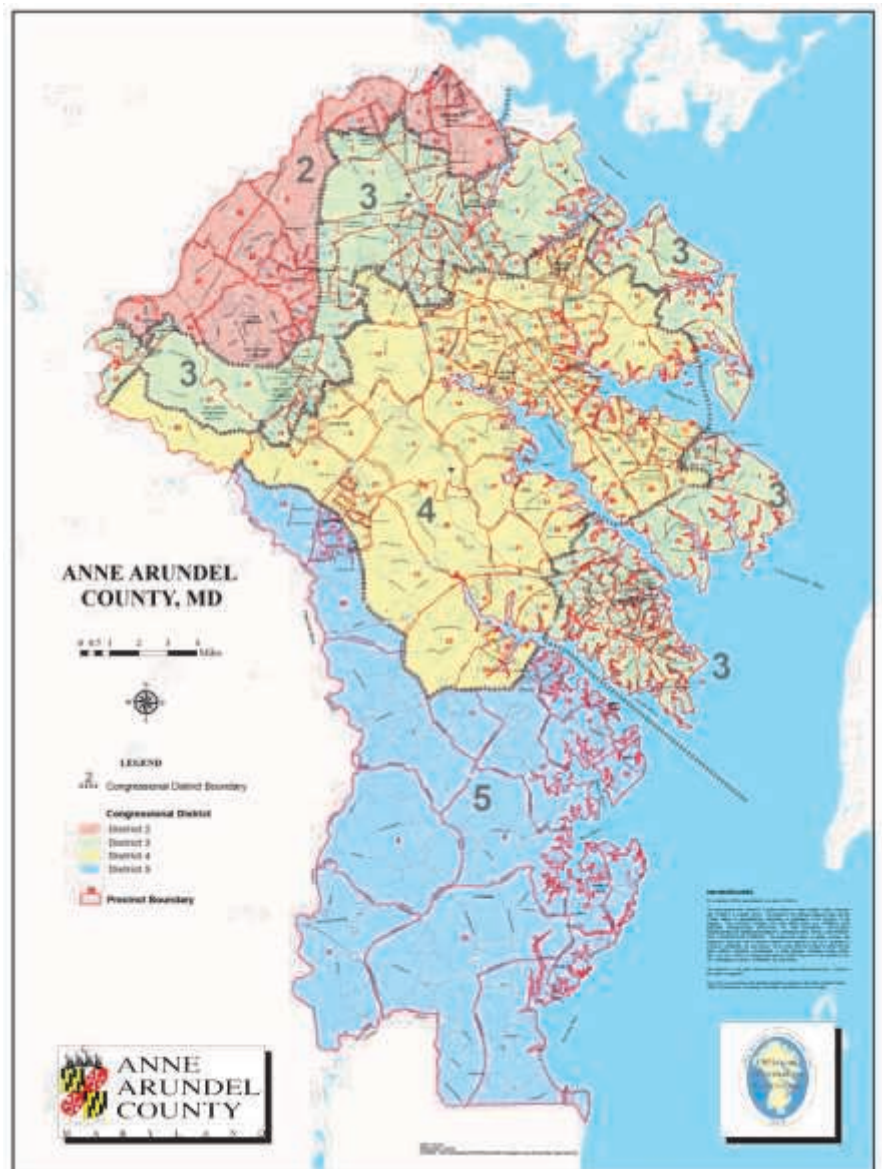
aacounty.org/elections

Download this *Voters' Guide*:

lwvaacmd.org; click on "Publications"

**Get up-to-date election and
candidate information:**

VOTE411.org



*Beginning this year, qualified citizens
may register to vote at early voting centers.
See page 3 for more information.

PUBLICATION DATE: SEPTEMBER 24, 2016

About the League of Women Voters General Election Voters' Guide

The League of Women Voters (LWV) does not support or oppose any candidate or political party. It is a nonpartisan organization of women and men that promotes informed participation in government. This *Voters' Guide* is published by the LWV Education Fund, a 501(c)(3) nonprofit, to assist citizens in their decision making process as they prepare to vote in the November 2016 presidential election.

The LWV has a long history of impartially reporting candidates' verbatim responses on issues important to voters. To prepare this *Voters' Guide*, the LWV sent questions to all qualified candidates requesting a reply before our mid-September print deadline. Responses appear exactly as entered by the candidates through an online interface. Answers end when the pre-established 400-character limit is reached. Candidates and offices are listed in ballot order.

Candidates are welcome to add to or revise their responses after the print deadline. The Vote411.org website has current candidate information and photographs, as well as responses from write-in candidates. Voters are encouraged to visit Vote411.org prior to voting for updated responses, as well as information on candidate forums, voting sites and a personalized ballot.

A printable version of this *Voters' Guide* may be downloaded from the League of Women Voters of Anne Arundel County (LWVAAC) website, lwvaacmd.org. Copies have been distributed to public libraries and other community centers, and are available by request by emailing lwvaacmd@gmail.com. Candidate information is current as of September 24, 2016.

LWVAAC thanks candidates for their participation.

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*The League of Women Voters is where hands-on work to
safeguard democracy leads to civic improvement.
Learn more at lwv.org and VOTE411.org.*

Frequently Asked Questions About Voting in Maryland

Am I registered to vote?

In Maryland, registration is permanent as long as you continue to live in the state and keep your name and address current. To verify that your registration is up-to-date, go to voterservices.elections.maryland.gov/VoterSearch, or call the Board of Elections at (410) 222-6600.

Am I eligible to register to vote?

To register, you must be at least 16 years old, a U.S. citizen and a Maryland resident. You must not be under court-ordered ineligibility to vote due to mental disability, nor convicted of buying or selling votes. If you have been convicted of a felony, you must have completed serving any prison sentence.

How and when can I register, change my party or update my address?

To vote absentee or on General Election Day, November 8, the deadline to register or make changes to your registration is Tuesday, October 18, at 9 PM. Go to aacounty.org/elections and click "Register to Vote."

You may also register to vote during early voting (October 27-November 3) at any Anne Arundel County early voting center. Bring a Maryland driver's license, identification card, learner's permit, or other proof of residency. If you are already registered, you may correct your address, but you cannot change your party affiliation during early voting.

Who can vote in the General Election?

Registered voters must be at least 18 years of age on or before November 8, 2016 to vote in the General Election.

What Congressional District am I in?

To determine your congressional district, enter your residential address in Vote411.org or mdelect.net, check your sample ballot or call the Board of Elections (410) 222-6600.

Write-In Candidates

Maryland law allows a voter to write in a candidate's name for a General Election office. Write-in candidates have until Thursday, October 20 to file their candidacy. A list of write-in candidates who have filed with the State Board of Elections may be found at all polling places and online at elections.state.md.us.

Three Ways to Vote!

VOTE EARLY

Early voting centers are open from 8 AM to 8 PM, Thursday, October 27 through Thursday, November 3, 2016. Vote at any of the following sites:

Odenton Regional Library

1325 Annapolis Road, Odenton, MD 21113

Glen Burnie Regional Library

1010 Eastway, Glen Burnie, MD 21060

Severna Park Regional Library

45 W. McKinsey Road, Severna Park, MD 21146

Annapolis Senior Activity Center

119 South Villa Avenue, Annapolis, MD 21401

Edgewater Community Library

25 Stepney's Lane, Edgewater, MD 21037

VOTE ABSENTEE

Any Maryland registered voter may vote by absentee ballot. To request an absentee ballot application, go to aacounty.org/elections and click on "Request an Absentee Ballot," or contact the Board of Elections at (410) 222-6600 or elections@aacounty.org. You may receive the ballot by mail, fax, email or in person, and application deadlines vary accordingly. Details may be found in the sample ballot mailed by the Board of Elections, or at aacounty.org/elections. The completed absentee ballot must be postmarked on or before General Election Day, or hand delivered to the County Board of Elections before 8 PM on General Election Day, Tuesday, November 8, 2016.

VOTE ON GENERAL ELECTION DAY

Your local assigned polling place will be open from 7 AM to 8 PM on Tuesday, November 8, General Election Day. If you are unsure of your assigned polling place, check the back of your sample ballot or go to voterservices.election.maryland.gov/PollingPlaceSearch.

First time voters in Maryland should bring identification with your current address, such as a driver's license.

U.S. President

Duties: The President is the head of state of the United States of America and is the Chief Executive Officer and the Commander in Chief of all military forces. The powers of the President are described in the U.S. Constitution and federal law. Subject to Senate approval, the President appoints members of the Cabinet, ambassadors to other nations and the United Nations, Supreme Court Justices and federal judges. The President, along with the Cabinet and its agencies, is responsible for carrying out and enforcing the laws of the United States. The President may also recommend legislation to the United States Congress.

How Elected: Every four years, political parties nominate candidates to run for President of the United States in a general election that is held on the first Tuesday, after the first Monday in November. Although all parties use conventions to nominate their candidates, in most states the Democratic and Republican parties also run state-wide primary elections or caucuses. The results of the primary elections influence how the delegates to their respective party's convention will cast ballots for candidates for President. The degree to which the result of the primary influences the votes of delegates at conventions varies from state to state.

Term: Four years. Limit of two terms.

Salary: \$400,000 per year.

Ground Rules for Inclusion in this Voters' Guide: All qualified presidential candidates were invited to provide biographical information and responses to five specific questions. Candidates qualified if they met the following criteria:

- (1) The candidate must have made a public announcement of her/his intention to run for her/his party's nomination for President;
- (2) The candidate must meet the Presidential Election Campaign Fund Act's minimum contribution threshold requirements for qualifying for matching funds, based on the most recent data publicly available on the FEC website; and
- (3) The candidate must qualify for the ballot in enough states to win a majority of electoral votes.

Responses were limited to 400 characters and were truncated thereafter.

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Candidates

Vote for no more than 1.

Donald Trump

Party: Republican

Website: <http://www.donaldjtrump.com/>

Campaign Email: info@donaldtrump.com

Campaign Phone: (646) 736-1779

Campaign Address: Donald J. Trump for President, INC 725 Fifth Ave New York, NY 10022

Personal Statement: The government of the US should be focused on serving the people of this great nation, not special interests. The government now rules rather than governs. The American people want their government back and together we will make America great again.

Top Three Goals: Secure our nation by restoring our leadership in the world; restore economic growth thru tax, trade, immigration, & energy reform; restore Constitutional limits on government.

Q1: What will you do to support a vibrant economy across the U.S.?

I have proposed tax, trade, energy and immigration reforms that will bring trillions of dollars and millions of jobs back to the United States. Through immigration reform, we will restore wage growth and reduce the related fiscal burdens on state and local governments. These

reforms will help lift wages and will create opportunities for millions of Americans to get back in the workforce.

Q2: What, if any, actions will you support to create a pathway to citizenship?

We must re-establish the rule of law in this country. Criminal illegal immigrants will be deported. No one should be given the gift of U.S. citizenship based on illegal behavior.

Q3: What should government do to provide an equitable, quality public education for all children pre-K through grade 12?

My administration will provide states with incentives to increase school choice options for parents and local school districts. Allowing the entrenched Washington education establishment and federal bureaucrats to leverage federal funds to dictate educational practices, curriculum and outcomes must be stopped. Control of K-12 education must be returned to parents and citizens locally.

Q4: What actions would you support the U.S. undertake to protect its interests abroad?

A: We are the leader of the free world - whether we like it or not - and we must ensure we seek partners willing to make sure our national interests are defended. We only gain this respect from both adversaries and allies by having a strong military, being clear about defeating radical

U.S. President

Islam, & stopping rogue nations from attacking/threatening our citizens, economic interests, resources and allies.

Q5: What kinds of policies will you pursue to promote social and racial justice for all Americans?

A: The best way to ensure social & racial justice is to return Constitutional limits on government & appoint Supreme Court Justices who will defend the Constitution, not rewrite it. The President must provide leadership & make sure the government works for the people. We must ensure low income & minority children learn to read at grade level & not trap them in failing schools based on zip code.

Hillary Clinton

Party: Democrat

Website: <http://www.hillaryclinton.com>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/hillaryclinton>

Twitter: twitter.com/HillaryClinton

Campaign Email: info@hillaryclinton.com

Campaign Phone: (646) 854-1432

Campaign Address: Hillary for America PO Box 5256 New York, NY 10185

Personal Statement: I'm running for President to make a difference in the lives of all Americans. I'll build an economy that works for everyone, continue my fight for children and families, and work to keep our country safe. And I'll unite Americans to take on all the challenges we face—because we're stronger together.

Top Three Goals: 1. Grow and strengthen our economy. 2. Curb the outsized influence of big money in American politics. 3. Ensure we have the partnerships to keep our country safe.

Q1: What will you do to support a vibrant economy across the U.S.?

My first priority will be to grow and strengthen our economy. I will invest in good-paying jobs, expand access to higher education, encourage companies to follow policies that put families first, and fight so that everyone pays their fair share. Every American deserves a good job, a successful career, and a productive life. Together, these efforts will work to make that a reality.

Q2: What, if any, actions will you support to create a pathway to citizenship?

In my first 100 days, I will introduce comprehensive immigration reform with a path to citizenship. An estimated nine million lawful permanent residents are eligible to become U.S. citizens. As President, I will work to expand fee waivers and enhance outreach, so that more of the working poor can assume the full rights and responsibilities of becoming U.S. citizens.

Q3: What should government do to provide an equitable, quality public education for all children pre-K through grade 12?

Every child deserves a high-quality education. I will double our investments in Early Head Start programs and ensure every 4-year old has access to high-quality preschool. I will do more to support our teachers, modernize our classrooms, and support STEM programs so that all public school students can learn computer science. We must give children the foundation to succeed, from pre-K to grade 12.

Q4: What actions would you support the U.S. undertake to protect its interests abroad?

The U.S. needs to exercise leadership and shape global events rather than be shaped by them. So many of our interests—our security, our economy, and our fight against climate change—require cooperation with our friends and allies, and with countries we may agree with on some things, and disagree with on others. As President, I'll ensure our country remains a source of leadership around the world.

Q5: What kinds of policies will you pursue to promote social and racial justice for all Americans?

Too many Americans still face discrimination and mistreatment. I will fight to break down barriers and build ladders of opportunity. We will reform our criminal justice system, protect transgender individuals, defend voting rights, fight environmental injustice, fight for comprehensive immigration reform, end the epidemic of gun violence, and ensure the citizens of Puerto Rico are treated equally.

Gary Johnson

Party: Libertarian

Website: <http://www.johnsonweld.com>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/govgaryjohnson/>

Twitter: twitter.com/GovGaryJohnson

Campaign Email: Info@JohnsonWeld.com

Campaign Phone: (801) 303-8922

Campaign Address: PO Box 4422 Salt Lake City, UT 84110

Personal Statement: I am Governor Gary Johnson and along with my running mate Governor William Weld we are honored to accept the invitation of the League of Women Voters to participate in their efforts to inform the voting American public of all options available to them during this Presidential election year.

Top Three Goals: Provide Congress a balanced budget within the first 100 days of office; Reduce (and in some cases eliminate) our military footprint abroad; Liberalize trade and economic activity.

U.S. President

Q1: What will you do to support a vibrant economy across the U.S.?

Submit to Congress a balanced budget to provide a template to stop unsustainable growth of the national debt, debt that weighs on employers, entrepreneurs and the economy. Support a simpler, fairer tax code that won't penalize productivity or investment. Fight to provide certainty in spending, taxes, and regulation so employers, entrepreneurs and investors make decisions that put people to work.

Q2: What, if any, actions will you support to create a pathway to citizenship?

Ensure a pathway to citizenship for deserving immigrants by first establishing a way for non-criminal undocumented immigrants to achieve documented status. After that crucial first step, the pathway to citizenship will be the same as it is for all immigrants. No cutting the line. No unfair advantages. Just a legal status that allows immigrants to pursue the traditional path to becoming a citizen.

Q3: What should government do to provide an equitable, quality public education for all children pre-K through grade 12?

Education works best when decentralized. Since President Carter created the Dept. of Education, test scores have stagnated despite any new initiatives or spending programs. Parents and teachers make the best decisions for students, not bureaucrats at the DoE. Education is traditionally a state and local responsibility, and should remain so for innovation, best practices and even competition.

Q4: What actions would you support the U.S. undertake to protect its interests abroad?

Above all, we must maintain a national defense that is second to none. Government's first responsibility is to protect us from threats abroad. If attacked, we respond. Our greatest assets are economy and culture. Blue jeans and computers did more to win the Cold War than stockpiled warheads. I will pursue vigorous diplomacy based on our economic might, not idle threats and military interventions.

Q5: What kinds of policies will you pursue to promote social and racial justice for all Americans?

I would do everything in the Presidency's power to end the militarization of the police. I would end the failed drug war, which unfairly targets communities of color. I would use the powers of the Federal Government to protect the civil liberties of all Americans, aggressively enforcing 14th Amendment protections. I would continue the work to help all Americans to achieve equality of opportunity.

Jill Stein

Party: Green

Website: <http://jill2016.com>

Facebook: <http://www.facebook.com/drjillstein>

Twitter: twitter.com/DrJillStein

Campaign Email: info@jill2016.com

Campaign Phone: (347) 425-1910

Campaign Address: 318 Franklin Ave Brooklyn, NY 11238

Personal Statement: After a career in clinical medicine, I am now practicing political medicine, running for President to help heal our ailing nation. Your vote for me sends a clear signal that you want a new, principled politics that puts people, planet and peace over profit.

Top Three Goals: 1. Green job-creation to fight climate change. 2. A fair economy that eliminates unemployment 3. Justice, true democracy, and respect for all human beings.

Q1: What will you do to support a vibrant economy across the U.S.?

- Eliminate unemployment by creating a job for every American who needs work.
- Repeal NAFTA and other trade agreements that export our jobs overseas and create immigration surges.
- Create 20 million green jobs to stimulate the economy improving our health by cleaning up our land, air, and water.
- Protect consumers and small businesses from big banks and Wall Street predators.

Q2: What, if any, actions will you support to create a pathway to citizenship?

First, end the massive deportation schemes that have torn families apart. I would also end the so-called Secure Communities program that has led to abuse of both citizens and non-citizens. End the misguided free trade agreements and regime change wars that have forced people to emigrate for their own survival. Finally, provide a welcoming and legal path to citizenship for current immigrants.

Q3: What should government do to provide an equitable, quality public education for all children pre-K through grade 12?

- 1) Protect our public schools from privatization schemes that will inevitably undermine the American dream of quality public education for all.
- 2) Increase federal funding of public schools to make sure all school districts have the financial resources they need to provide quality education.
- 3) Ensure that kids come to school ready to learn: healthy, nourished, and secure.

U.S. President

Q4: What actions would you support the U.S. undertake to protect its interests abroad?

Forge a new foreign policy based solidly on diplomacy, international law, respect for human rights, and consistent nonviolent support for democratic movements around the world. End the misguided policies of militarism that have produced terrorist organizations, refugee crises, failed states, and a bloated military that we can no longer afford.

Q5: What kinds of policies will you pursue to promote social and racial justice for all Americans?

My plan to end unemployment will transform the economic life of low income communities that are now struggling with unemployment rates two or three times the national average. Coupled with my commitment to quality public schools and community empowerment, we can not just lessen racial disparity, but bring it to an end.

Support Your Local League of Women Voters!

JOIN...

When you join the League of Women Voters of Anne Arundel County (LWVAAC), you help make democracy work. You become part of a unique citizen organization working to promote informed participation in government and advocating on local, state and national issues. You decide how to be involved. As a LWVAAC member, you can:

- study issues and observe government;
- stay informed about decisions that directly affect you and your community;
- join a community of individuals interested in making our democracy work;
- learn new skills and share your own;
- advocate for change and community problem-solving.

LWVAAC membership is open to men and women of all ages. Make your voice heard... JOIN TODAY!

Go to lwvaacmd.org and click on "Connect" or contact membership chair, Kathy Larrabee, kklarrabee@verizon.net or (410) 897-0332.

DONATE...

A tax-deductible contribution to the League of Women Voters of Anne Arundel County Education Fund helps fund resources like this *Voters' Guide*, as well as candidate forums and other nonpartisan, informative public programs. Please mail your check payable to the LWVAAC Education Fund to Alfa Stevens, LWVAAC Treasurer, 7923 Carriage Drive, Severn, MD 21144. Thank you for your support!

League of Women Voters® of Anne Arundel County
Niecy Chambers and Susan Elson, Co-Presidents

Phone: (410) 295-5228

Email: lwvaacmd@gmail.com

Website: lwvaacmd.org

U.S. Senator

Duties: U.S. Senators share the responsibility with Representatives for enactment of the nation's laws as provided for in the U.S. Constitution. They may also conduct investigations on issues of national importance. The Senate is charged with ratifying treaties established by the President and confirms Presidential appointments.

How Elected: The Senate consists of 100 members, two from each state. Senators are elected by a state at large and serve for six years. One-third of the Senate is up for election every two years. A Senator must be at least 30 years of age and must have been a citizen of the United States for at least nine years. In 2016, Maryland voters will elect one Senator.

Term: Six years

Base Salary: \$174,000

Questions for U.S. Senators:

1. **QUALIFICATIONS:** How does your experience prepare you for the duties of a Senator?
2. **ECONOMY:** What economic policies would you support to assist low and middle income citizens?
3. **FOREIGN POLICY:** What are the most important foreign policy issues and how would you address them?
4. **IMMIGRATION:** What changes, if any, would you support in immigration policy?
5. **ENVIRONMENT:** What is the most pressing environmental problem and what measures would you support to address it?
6. **INEQUALITY:** What policies would you support to address increasing concern about economic, racial, and social inequality?
7. **TAX REFORM:** What changes, if any, would you support in federal tax policy?
8. **OTHER PRIORITIES:** What other issues are priorities for you?

Party abbreviations: REP Republican; DEM Democrat; LBT Libertarian; GRN Green

Candidates

Vote for no more than 1.

Kathy Szeliga (REP)

Campaign Website: kathyformaryland.com

1. QUALIFICATIONS: As a Maryland small business owner, I understand the tools business leaders and job creators need to get the people of Maryland back to work. After working to elect Governor Larry Hogan in 2014, I was selected to serve as the minority leader in the State House. Maryland is starting to change for the better; now we need to bring real change to Washington.

2. ECONOMY: We need to empower more Marylanders with opportunities to achieve the American dream. By improving our education system, we can help more people improve their lives and increase their incomes. Our students should be presented with as many options as possible so they are fully prepared for the current job market, including charter schools or vocational programs.

3. FOREIGN POLICY: One of the most serious threats facing our country is radical Islamic terrorism. Due to broken promises to our allies and unfulfilled threats to our enemies, America's word is no longer taken seriously on the global stage making us an ineffective leader against terrorism. One solution is to work with our allies around the globe who are fighting against radical Islamic terrorist groups.

4. IMMIGRATION: Career politicians have failed people on both sides of this discussion for decades to the point that no one trusts the government

when it comes to fixing both our legal and illegal immigration problems. Until we are able to secure our borders, the American people will not trust Congress to do anything else. That is why it must be our top priority.

5. ENVIRONMENT: The health of the Chesapeake Bay is Maryland's priority. The Bay watershed goes from New York to Virginia. We need equitable, fair and common sense solutions to cleaning up our Bay from a multi-state compact. The Rain Tax is an example of a ridiculous policy that required 9% of the watershed land users to bear responsibility for environmental cleanup while excusing the other 91%.

6. INEQUALITY: Education and jobs. The fact that we are not preparing our students for the true job market they are facing. We need plumbers, military personnel, and people in law enforcements just as much as we need doctors, lawyers, and accountants. That is why it is extremely important that we reform our education system so that our children are given every opportunity.

7. TAX REFORM: Our tax code is yet another example that the federal government has become too complex for the average person to navigate. The tax code is more than 73,000 pages long. There is no way Maryland families and small businesses could begin to understand it. We must simplify our tax code and eliminate loopholes.

8. OTHER PRIORITIES: As the daughter of an Army officer, I strongly believe we must honor the promises we have made to our men and women in uniform. But right now, we are failing them. The VA is a bureaucratic nightmare and needs

U.S. Senator

immediate reform. These brave men and women have sacrificed so much to keep our country safe – it is the least we can do.

Chris Van Hollen (DEM)

Campaign Website: vanhollen.org

1. QUALIFICATIONS: Like Senator Barbara Mikulski, I believe in delivering results. In Congress and the General Assembly, I've worked together with grassroots activists and community leaders to make a positive difference. I know when to stand and fight for what we believe in, and when to find common ground to achieve results for Marylanders. I've been endorsed by Maryland groups like SEIU, MD Firefighters, and UAW.

2. ECONOMY: I have a plan that cracks down on Wall Street's risky financial dealings and boosts paychecks of working Americans with a Paycheck Bonus Tax Credit, with a savers bonus to help families prepare for retirement. We must also strengthen the safety net, raise the minimum wage, improve access to affordable childcare, provide earned paid sick leave and family leave, and ensure equal pay for equal work.

3. FOREIGN POLICY: I opposed the Iraq War from the start and believe we must work with and support our allies in the Middle East to defeat ISIL. I oppose putting troops on the ground there and risking Iraq 2.0. We need to support our soldiers and returning veterans by providing healthcare, education, and job opportunities, and ending veteran homelessness.

4. IMMIGRATION: I support comprehensive immigration reform to strengthen border security, streamline our visa system, and create an earned path to citizenship to bring the undocumented out of the shadows. This strategy will boost job growth, reduce our deficits, increase the Social Security Trust Fund, and strengthen our national security. I'm pleased to be endorsed by CASA de Maryland.

5. ENVIRONMENT: Every community must be safe from toxic pollutants and chemicals like lead. The Sierra Club endorsed me because I fight for environmental justice and have a plan to address climate change by cutting carbon pollution while also putting money back in the pockets of middle class families. I've fought to stop oil drilling in the Chesapeake Bay watershed and for federal support for clean-up efforts.

6. INEQUALITY: Our country must meet its promise of equal opportunity and justice for all, but we're not there yet. Our system is rigged for the wealthy and privileged. I want to stop CEOs from writing off big bonuses if they don't give employees raises. We have to open the doors of opportunity to all - with early education, debt-free college, and

job training. We must end unjust mass incarceration.

7. TAX REFORM: Our tax code is rigged for those who make money off of money instead of working Americans. My plan would eliminate tax breaks that reward corporations that move jobs overseas instead of creating jobs here at home, and close loopholes that benefit hedge fund managers. I also support a Wall Street trading fee to crack down on risky trading.

8. OTHER PRIORITIES: 1. Protect and expand Social Security and Medicare to guarantee retirement security 2. Invest in education in every neighborhood so every child gets a fair opportunity 3. Reform the criminal justice system to treat drug addiction as a health issue and improve ex-offender reentry to help people rejoin their communities 4. Reform the campaign finance system to get big and secret money out of politics

Margaret Flowers (GRN)

Campaign Website: flowersforsenate.org

1. QUALIFICATIONS: I practiced pediatrics for 15 years and left practice to do advocacy work in 2007. Since then I have worked on a broad range of issues at the state and national levels. I have helped to write legislation, testified before committees, educated legislators and their staff and organized campaigns for social change. I have also written about a broad range of issues, both analyses and about solutions.

2. ECONOMY: Through my project "It's Our Economy" I have worked to educate about solutions that give people greater control over the economy and build community wealth. These include transitioning from corporate subsidies to a guaranteed basic income to end poverty, support for decentralized community-owned solar power, support for cooperatives, doubling social security benefits and improved Medicare for all.

3. FOREIGN POLICY: First is to recognize that the U.S. is the largest empire in the history of the world and that our aggressive foreign policy is creating greater insecurity. The empire economy is hurting our ability to meet our domestic needs. We need to scale back our global military presence, move to greater use of diplomacy and take the profit out of war. We also need to lead a global nuclear disarmament.

4. IMMIGRATION: I would stop detention and deportation of immigrants and militarization of our borders. Greater emphasis should be placed on changing policies that drive immigration: trade agreements and other economic practices that create debt and extreme poverty, the failed drug war and military intervention that bring violence and instability. All workers should have safe

U.S. Senator

working conditions and a living wage.

5. ENVIRONMENT: Extreme extraction and use of fossil fuels and uranium for energy are poisoning the water, land and air and worsening climate change. We must move rapidly to a carbon-free, nuclear-free energy economy through a large scale just transition to produce sustainable sources of energy and clean transportation and to regenerative agriculture techniques and wetland restoration. This will create more jobs.

6. INEQUALITY: We need to hold Wall Street executives accountable and create public and postal banks. I support taking the profit out of prisons, ending bail and jail time for nonviolent offenses, a public health approach to drugs and greater community control over police. I support equal access to high quality public education, reinvestment in low income communities and affordable housing, not gentrification.

7. TAX REFORM: We need to return to high tax rates on the wealthiest as there were in the middle of the last century to stop the hoarding of wealth and stimulate reinvestment in the economy. In this global era, we need a global tax to end the hiding of wealth in tax havens. We need to lift the cap on the Social Security tax to increase benefits and raise the Medicare tax to expand improved Medicare to everyone.

8. OTHER PRIORITIES: A 21st century model of fair trade that improves conditions for all workers and protects the environment. We need to treat access to basic necessities and information as public goods, not commodities. I support municipal internet and net neutrality. We need a national water plan and food labeling laws. We need to end modern slavery and genocide of Indigenous people and promote self-determination.



Duties: Representatives share responsibility with Senators for enactment of the nation's laws, and may conduct investigations on issues of national importance. Laws that require payment of taxes always begin in the House of Representatives. Representatives determine whether a public official should be tried if accused of a crime.

How Elected: The United States is divided into 435 Congressional districts that are reapportioned among the states after each decennial census. Every state contains at least one Congressional district, and each district has one elected Representative. All seats in the House of Representatives are up for election in every even-numbered year. Representatives must be at least 25 years old, have been citizens of the United States for at least 7 years and be residents of the state they want to represent.

Term: Two years

Base Salary: \$174,000

Questions for U.S. Representatives:

1. **QUALIFICATIONS:** How does your experience prepare you for the duties of a Representative?
2. **ECONOMY:** What economic policies would you support to assist low and middle income citizens?
3. **FOREIGN POLICY:** What are the most important foreign policy issues and how would you address them?
4. **IMMIGRATION:** What changes, if any, would you support in immigration policy?
5. **ENVIRONMENT:** What is the most pressing environmental problem and what measure would you support to address it?
6. **INEQUALITY:** What policies would you support to address increasing concern about economic, racial, and social inequality?
7. **TAX REFORM:** What changes, if any, would you support in federal tax policy?
8. **OTHER PRIORITIES:** What other issues are priorities for you?

Party abbreviations: REP Republican; DEM Democrat; LBT Libertarian; GRN Green

Candidates

Vote for no more than 1.

Pat McDonough (REP)

Campaign Website:

patmcdonoughforcongress.com

1. QUALIFICATIONS: Eighteen years serving in the Md. General Assembly introducing, reviewing and voting on legislation. Also, representing constituents with their problems and sitting in committee listening to information from the public about legislation.

2. ECONOMY: Small business creates 75% of the jobs in America. 300,000 small businesses are started every year, but 400,000 fail. An economic growth stimulus tax program is the most important step. For example, zero corporate taxes on all small business start-ups for 5 years; Zero Corporate Taxes on manufacturing in order to create a manufacturing super-power. Reform or elimination of the Dodd-Frank law.

3. FOREIGN POLICY: Global terrorism must be recognized as a war against America and must be prosecuted with the full power of the U.S. military. The growth of China as a military threat must be acknowledged and answered by smart national security and defense programs. Cyber warfare and potential space weapons – the U.S. should promote making our country the number one cyber warfare and defense system in the world.

4. IMMIGRATION: Total border security including the wall; domestic enforcement including e-verify in order to protect jobs; elimination of sanctuary

city policies; removal of Obama's unconstitutional executive orders; and rejection of any amnesty program.

5. ENVIRONMENT: We must begin Innovative recycling and restoration initiative regarding our water supply. This program should include the recycling of waste water such as the program used in Singapore and other nations. The desalination plants should be located on our east and west coasts, like the programs used in Saudi Arabia. Exploration and Recovery of our underground aquifer systems could be initiated

6. INEQUALITY: The spreading schism between the wealthy, the middle class, and the working families is a result of poor economic policies. Wages have been static, good jobs have been lost which has caused a decrease in the middle class, and loss of jobs and the emerging super-wealthy elitist class. Much of the racial strife has been caused by reckless dividers within our nation.

7. TAX REFORM: One reform would be to prohibit large corporations from tax aversion programs where they relocate in foreign countries which is becoming more prevalent and dangerous. I would also place a huge transfer tax on any foreign company that wants to purchase an American company, for example, China now owns Smithfield Meat Products and Sparrow Point was previously owned by the Russians.

8. OTHER PRIORITIES: Repeal of ObamaCare;

District 2

"Second Amendment Protection" first class treatment of our veterans. Initiatives to end Alzheimer's and Dementia; legal immigration program that will encourage the best and brightest from around the world to come to America and make our country an intellectual superpower; Tax deduction incentive programs permitting families to invest in their children's IRA-type investments.

C. A. Dutch Ruppersberger (DEM)

Campaign Website: dutchforcongress.com

1. QUALIFICATIONS: An attorney by trade, I began my career as a prosecutor and managed a payroll in private practice. I have served as a Baltimore County Councilman, then as Baltimore County Executive, where I managed a workforce of 20,000 and was required to submit a balanced budget each year. Since, I have served seven terms in Congress and have developed a reputation as a "centrist" for my bipartisanship.

2. ECONOMY: I am supporting efforts to gradually raise the federal minimum wage from \$7.25 to \$12 by 2020. Today, the top 1 percent of the population owns 35 percent of the country's wealth. If we evened out this disparity, the paychecks of the lower-wage earners would get pumped right back into the economy and other local businesses. Consumer demand goes up, there is greater productivity and less turnover.

3. FOREIGN POLICY: ISIS and Iran. We must continue air strikes with our allies and using U.S. Special Ops. But we cannot be the sheriff of the world; we must engage other countries in dealing with ISIS. Regarding Iran, we must focus on implementation of the recently-passed agreement designed to prevent Iran from building a nuclear weapon for at least 10 years. Iran exports terrorism and can't be trusted.

4. IMMIGRATION: I support comprehensive immigration reform, not amnesty. We must first work to prevent illegal immigration by securing our

borders and deporting immigrants who have committed crimes. But can't deport our way out of the problem. We should establish a rigorous "legal status" process similar to the system established by the bipartisan Senate bill, which included paying back taxes and a penalty.

5. ENVIRONMENT: In Maryland, the most pressing environmental problem is cleaning up the Chesapeake Bay, which contributes \$1 trillion to the economies of its 6-state watershed. I supported one of the most aggressive Bay clean-up bills in decades, which requires states to meet pollution caps and authorizes new funding to reduce run-off.

6. INEQUALITY: Raising the minimum wage could go a long way toward leveling economic inequality. We also have to work harder to make sure all children have the opportunity to receive a quality education, which translates to greater economic opportunity down the road. We have seen tremendous racial unrest in Baltimore and across our nation in the past year and it needs to be addressed by every level of government.

7. TAX REFORM: Our tax code is too old and too complicated. It needs to be systematically overhauled. We should have lower individual and corporate tax rates and have fewer tax brackets. We should get rid of unfair loopholes and tax breaks for certain industries such as oil and gas companies. I supported extending the Bush tax cuts for the vast majority of American households.

8. OTHER PRIORITIES: Cybersecurity is one of the single biggest challenges our country faces today. It also presents a tremendous opportunity for Maryland because we are home to so many federal agencies, contractors and military installations – so any investment in cybersecurity means jobs for our region. I have championed a national strategy since my first days in Congress.

Kristin S. Kasprzak (LBT)

No response received by deadline.

Candidates

Vote for no more than 1.

Mark Plaster (REP)

Campaign Website: plasterforcongress.com

1. QUALIFICATIONS: My experience is practical, real world rather than inside the bubble of politics. I've had successful careers in the military, medicine, and business. I saw the cost of freedom while I was deployed twice in Iraq. As a physician, I know the importance of working as a team and listening to people's problems. I took a business from my basement to a multimillion dollar publishing company.

2. ECONOMY: Small business is the economic engine that creates jobs and allows upward mobility. Lower taxes overall and a streamlined regulatory environment will help more Americans achieve their dreams of owning their own businesses. More government involvement feels benevolent, but ends up stifling the real potential of economic growth. Access to capital is also essential to growth and opportunity.

3. FOREIGN POLICY: As a twice-deployed Iraq War veteran, I know the human cost of war.

District 3

Diplomatic and economic measures should always be exhausted before resorting to force. However, if armed conflict is necessary for American security and liberty, then our military and allies must have the resources, direction, and rules of engagement required to bring the fight to our enemies. We should not wait to fight at home.

4. IMMIGRATION: Securing our borders and ports of entry is the top priority and first step towards a workable immigration reform plan. The Border States and governors are struggling to pick up the pieces because of Washington's failure to enforce existing laws and work towards reform. We need to take these steps so those who want to come here the right way can do so in a respectable and fair process.

5. ENVIRONMENT: Protecting our home is the first responsibility of mankind. But we must not do it at the expense of our fellow man. I will support enacting sensible environmental protections while trimming the excesses of the EPA that strangle commerce and manufacturing. We can have a clean bay and clean energy, and we can have it without choking our ability to prosper.

6. INEQUALITY: Equal opportunity is the foundation of what makes America great. But everyone does not start at equal places. Rather than hold someone back, I will support policies that give everyone the opportunity to compete equally to achieve the full measure of their potential and effort. Further, I will support restrictions on policies that favor one group over another.

7. TAX REFORM: Congress needs to streamline regulations and the tax code so the innovative, entrepreneurial potential of the American people can flourish. The tax code needs to be simplified and flatter so that government gets out of the business of picking winners and losers. The corporate tax code should be globally competitive and the death tax should end.

8. OTHER PRIORITIES: Health care insurance premiums and deductibles continue to spiral upward. I will support policies that open up competition and innovation that lowers the cost of healthcare while improving quality and maintaining universal coverage for everyone.

John Sarbanes (DEM)

Campaign Website: johnsarbanes.com

1. QUALIFICATIONS: Prior to entering Congress, I had nearly 20 years of experience in the private, public and non-profit sectors. I worked with the MD State Dept of Education, represented non-profit hospitals and senior living providers and championed efforts to protect consumers and ensure fair treatment in the workplace. This prepared me well for the diversity of issues one

must manage as a member of Congress.

2. ECONOMY: We must create good jobs and support policies that grow the middle class. This includes ending tax breaks for corporations that ship American jobs overseas, investing in national infrastructure and raising the minimum wage. I also strongly support access to and affordability of health insurance and education as well as paid sick and family leave.

3. FOREIGN POLICY: The threat from ISIS is real and the US and international community must address it. I support a strategy that would build a broad and diverse coalition of international partners to protect the US and its allies and to destroy ISIS. While the US military can be used to stem the violence, it is up to the Arab nations to create and ensure a long-term strategy for a safe and secure region.

4. IMMIGRATION: I support a policy that considers both national security and economic interests, as well as the need to provide a fair, legal and humane framework for people who want to come to America. I support improved border security and law enforcement, a focus on punishing employers who knowingly hire undocumented workers, and a practical approach to addressing undocumented workers currently in the country.

5. ENVIRONMENT: The most pressing environmental problem is climate change and the government can do many things to address it: invest in clean energy technologies; cap and reduce greenhouse gases; require utility companies to generate energy from renewable sources; develop capabilities to capture and store carbon emissions; and advance smart grid technologies so electricity is delivered efficiently.

6. INEQUALITY: Inequality is among the most pressing issues facing our nation today. We must lift up every struggling community & provide hope and opportunity to those Americans who feel left out and left behind. This includes policies that would strengthen voter protections, raise the minimum wage, expand the affordability and accessibility of health insurance and improve our K-12 and higher education systems.

7. TAX REFORM: The tax code should reflect our nation's values— encouraging private enterprise and innovation, strengthening communities and ensuring that the shared costs of government are distributed equitably. Changes to the current tax structure must be undertaken with the greatest caution so as not to cause unanticipated consequences for American taxpayers or compromise the Nation's overall fiscal outlook.

8. OTHER PRIORITIES: One of my top priorities is to end the reign of big money in our political system that has corroded our institutions of democracy. That's why I introduced the

Government By the People Act which would amplify the voices of everyday Americans by empowering grassroots supporters, providing a tax credit for campaign contributions and supporting candidates when they are up against Super PACs.

Nnabu Eze (GRN)

1. QUALIFICATIONS: I have been an Information Technology Consultant for the past 15 years Analyzing/identifying issues and presenting, making recommendations to management and resolving technical issues. Resolving issues for consumers on a federal government contracts has prepared me to think critically and independently with tolerance for others and concern for current affairs.

2. ECONOMY: The issues I have heard most is creating more jobs and stimulate an economy that supports the low and middle class. Having experience in Information Technology and with knowledge that more jobs are moving in that direction, I believe Congress could establish a special education fund to increase the capacity of Community Colleges which would serve as a critical re-training resource for Americans.

3. FOREIGN POLICY: ISIS will be defeated by a United front not a divided one. Russia and its allies are pursuing a strategy to keep Assad in power while the United States and its allies are pursuing a strategy to remove Assad from power. The United States should vigorously pursue the Syria peace agreement with Russia and its allies without preconditions; then unite with Russia and its allies to defeat ISIS.

4. IMMIGRATION: I would support to change

visas for lower-skilled workers. The current system makes it difficult for farmers and ranchers to quickly bring in workers they need. This would help reduce the influx of illegals by giving the low skilled jobs to legal migrants.

5. ENVIRONMENT: Greenhouse gas emissions are the main cause of climate change and Congress has not been strong enough to initiate a massive policy shift away from fossil fuels. I would support policies that would curb carbon emissions and move us towards sustainable forms of energy.

6. INEQUALITY: I would support as I stated earlier, job-training programs that would prepare low income and middle class for the Hi-tech global economy of the 21st century; combined with antidiscrimination enforcement that ensures equal access to those programs. Strengthening the right to organize is also important to helping the working poor to move out of poverty.

7. TAX REFORM: The present Federal tax structure is outdated and economic conditions have changed since its adoption in the 1930s. I would support any policy that calls for a simple tax system with rates that are the same across different income sources or types of expenditures. Universal exemptions, deductions or credits are much simpler to administrate than targeted ones.

8. OTHER PRIORITIES: I support an increase of the minimum wage to \$15 by 2020. The current minimum wage is outdated and too low for this day and time. The United States is the only industrialized Nation without paid sick time or family leave; this workplace policy is out of synch with the changing realities of modern families, and with changing roles of men and woman both at home and work.

Candidates

Vote for no more than 1.

George E. McDermott (REP)

Campaign Website: secretjustice.com

1. QUALIFICATIONS: I have unique qualities after 50 years of building experience., 20 + of those years was spent fighting corruption in Maryland courts, taking on corruption in the Maryland Bar Association, and providing community service for victims of our corrupt judicial system. See secretjustice.com 1100 programs chronicling my successes and fighting for justice and our Constitution. which is the Rule of Law.

2. ECONOMY: Number 1 Use the office of as a Congressman to put together a panel and coalition. Of citizens groups to both in the district and throughout the nation. To investigate the financial clout of the housing and foreclosure crisis which bankrupted the United States and made MegaBanks

out of three of the largest predatory lenders in the nation. turning our citizens into debt slaves while rewarding Crims

3. FOREIGN POLICY: Foreign policy must start at home, when inhabitants of the nation season we do not respect the rule of law, are judges are attorneys in our legislative members disrespect the citizens constitutional rights, disrespect the same laws they hold citizens accountable for. Public servants who do not show respect for their own oath of office. Makes it impossible for foreign nations to trust us as Honest.

4. IMMIGRATION: I would support me for immigration reform with other like-minded members of the house and Senate. we cannot forget our history approximately 93% of our population are descendents of immigrants who

District 4

were brought to corporate America as indentured servants slaves and forced labor who built this nation. we need to get past the rhetoric and scare tactics and pass meaningful immigrant legislation.

5. ENVIRONMENT: *No response received by deadline.*

6. INEQUALITY: As victims rights advocate I have witnessed and continue to witness economic social and physical judicial terrorism against my fellow citizens. We have to return to the principles of equal justice under the law and equal protection under the law. So that politicians, public servants in state and federal governments, and our judicial branch of government adhere to our Constitution/ rule of law.

7. TAX REFORM: Tax reform is needed, right now corporate America and its lawyers in the A.B.A. and accountants. especially through banking frauds and foreclosure frauds are not being prosecuted by our US Justice Department. As recently demonstrated when Eric Holder retired from office and got a \$75 million bonus from J.P. Morgan Chase for not prosecuting banking fraud or sending one bank executive to jail. ? ? ?

8. OTHER PRIORITIES: 1. Stop the looting of our Social Security trust fund by Congress make it repaid the trillions it has taken out of the fund in the last 20 years, 2. Support Sen. Graham Grassley's bill. for creation of an independent office of Inspector General not connected with the Justice Department or the courts. To investigate and bring charges against court agents. Violating citizens legal rights /liberties

Anthony G. Brown (DEM)

Campaign Website: anthonybrown.com

1. QUALIFICATIONS: My experience as a retired U.S. Army Colonel with a tour of duty in Iraq, practicing attorney representing businesses and individual clients, former member of the House of Delegates and Lt. Governor have prepared me to lead people, build coalitions and forge consensus on many issues ranging from domestic violence prevention to Veterans services, expanding pre-K and access to affordable healthcare.

2. ECONOMY: To assist low and middle income citizens, we must grow the economy with good-paying jobs, train and educate the most competitive workforce, and support families with greater Infrastructure investments, better foreign trade agreements, stronger collective bargaining, expanded career technology education, paid sick leave, higher minimum wage, tax credits for caregivers, and equal-pay-for-equal-work.

3. FOREIGN POLICY: ISIS is the fastest growing national security threat. America must lead the fight to defeat ISIS with regional allies, particularly

Arab nations, involving air campaigns, Syrian no-fly zone, more intelligence assets, and non-US forces to regain ISIS held territory; disrupting and dismantling the growing global terrorist infrastructure; and hardening defenses against external and homegrown threats.

4. IMMIGRATION: America's immigration system is broken. I support comprehensive immigration reform that will provide a pathway to citizenship that requires an undocumented immigrant to pass a criminal background check and pay their fair share of taxes, streamlines our legal immigration system to support our economy where needed, cracks down on employers who hire undocumented workers, and strengthens our borders.

5. ENVIRONMENT: Climate disruption is our greatest environmental challenge. Science demands that we take bold action to reduce carbon pollution by at least 50% by 2030. I will support initiatives, legislation and specific actions to reduce carbon pollution from power plants, expand the clean energy economy, build a clean energy infrastructure, and cut energy waste in homes, businesses, and factories.

6. INEQUALITY: The greatest challenge we face as a nation is the growing inequalities, disparities, inequities and gaps that exist in our classrooms, prisons, job markets and neighborhoods. To address these concerns, I support greater investments in pre-K education, criminal justice reforms and police accountability, more career technology education and affordable housing options, and expanding voting rights.

7. TAX REFORM: Federal tax policy should promote economic growth and investments, as well as opportunities for more Americans. I support a more progressive income tax where the wealthiest individuals and largest corporations pay their fair share of taxes, and tax credits for working families in need of greater relief, such as expanding the earned income tax credit and tax credits for child care and caregivers

8. OTHER PRIORITIES: Preventing Iran from building a nuclear weapon must be among our most important foreign policy priorities, and compliance with the recent agreement will necessarily require close Congressional oversight. Campaign finance reform is essential to reduce the influence Wall Street has on government and the economy. And Congressional redistricting must be transparent and not favor one political party.

Benjamin Lee Krause (LBT)

No response received by deadline.

Kamesha T. Clark (GRN)

Campaign Website: kameshaclark.com

No response received by deadline.

Candidates

Vote for no more than 1.

Mark Arness (REP)

Campaign Website: arnessforcongress.com

1. QUALIFICATIONS: Mark's career in aviation medicine and experience as a licensed pilot with over 1500 flight hours and 150 hours flown in 25 combat missions under enemy fire in the skies over war-torn Bosnia, Iraq, Kuwait and Afghanistan qualifies him for the most challenging service to constituents. Mark is a decorated veteran and caring physician, awarded the Air Medal for service under fire in aerial combat.

2. ECONOMY: "Whatever you tax, you get less of!" Mark will vote FOR House Resolution 25, to revoke the 16th Amendment and defund the IRS to stop abusive collections and end taxpayer harassment! Mark will vote to revoke Obamacare, which is just a failed insurance scheme, and craft a healthcare plan that really works for Marylanders. Folks are now working two 30-hour jobs after cutbacks to evade tax penalties!

3. FOREIGN POLICY: Mark will vote for viable military readiness of our Nation and to protect our interests abroad. This administration has emboldened our adversaries by pusillanimously allowing the former Soviets, led by former KGB chief and self-styled "New Tsar" Vlad Putin to roll unchallenged into the Crimea and now Eastern Ukraine. Our NATO borders, Alaska are next- the Russians have so stated on public record!

4. IMMIGRATION: Mark will not support "Blanket amnesty" for all illegals! Mark does support a case-by-case legal pathway to naturalization for tax-paying immigrant workers who make valuable contributions to our communities! Mark will vote to stop 'free rides' and enforce our border laws in the interests of national security! Mark does support legal paths to naturalization, including the military service pathway.

5. ENVIRONMENT: We must preserve our natural resources for our own use and enjoyment and for future generations. Mark supports initiatives to clean up the Bay and insure wildlife preservation for posterity, but taxing rain and chickens is not the way to pay for it! Mark will fight for Federal funding for the Chesapeake bay watershed program to support our fishing and farming industries.

6. INEQUALITY: Preserve, protect and defend our Constitutional rights to liberty and the right of every citizen, no matter how small, to life! Mark will vote for legislation that recognizes that life begins at conception by divine inspiration to protect our children of all ages, and to preserve

our God-given, fundamental second Amendment right to defend our persons and property, guaranteed by the Constitution!

7. TAX REFORM: We must reform the IRS, or defund it and revoke the 16th Amendment! The IRS routinely violates citizens' Constitutional rights to due process; it levies penalties, garnishes wages and imposes harsh fees without any court order or legal review, as an 'administrative' process; taxpayers have no legal rights in defending themselves against this agency! We can raise revenue with a national sales tax.

8. OTHER PRIORITIES: ISIS is a clear and present danger which the current administration has failed to address. We need to pursue United States' interests overseas and aggressively confront and neutralize ISIS assets, materials, funding and curtail weapons. We must mount a multi-targeted campaign to destroy ISIL physical infrastructure, restrict weapons access, cut off banking assets and destroy ISIL logistics train.

Steny H. Hoyer (DEM)

Campaign Website: hoyerforcongress.com

1. QUALIFICATIONS: For over 30 years in Congress, I have been an effective leader who works in a bipartisan way to deliver results for my constituents. I continue to fight tirelessly for economic development, have helped create and save nearly 23,000 jobs, and am dedicated to ensuring all Marylanders have access to middle class opportunities.

2. ECONOMY: I'm leading a jobs plan in Congress called Make It In America, which aims to spur the creation of well-paying jobs across the country and ensure that all Americans have the tools they need to get ahead in today's new economy. I support an increase in the minimum wage, access to affordable child care, and ensuring equal pay in the workplace - all of which would help American families.

3. FOREIGN POLICY: Two of the most important issues are the Iran nuclear deal and destroying ISIL. I've been a leader in calling for the most vigorous monitoring and enforcement regime possible - and for America to play a leading role in ensuring Iran abides by its commitments. In the effort to destroy ISIL, I am encouraging the Obama Administration to increase its efforts to demolish ISIL's energy resources.

4. IMMIGRATION: I support comprehensive immigration reform that will provide a timely pathway to citizenship. Fixing our broken immigration system is not only good for our

economy, but it's the right thing to do and is supported by the majority of Americans.

5. ENVIRONMENT: We must take steps to address climate change. Climate change is a threat to our environment - including the Chesapeake Bay - public health, the economy, and national security. I will continue to support legislation to advance renewable energy technologies and improve energy efficiency, which will save families and businesses money, spur innovation and create well-paying jobs.

6. INEQUALITY: I have cosponsored legislation to raise the federal minimum wage to \$12 an hour by 2020. I am also a cosponsor of the Paycheck Fairness Act which would end wage discrimination against women and promote higher wages to help more Americans secure a place in the middle class. I also support bipartisan efforts that will help fix our country's broken criminal justice system.

7. TAX REFORM: I support comprehensive tax reform that simplifies the tax code, creates an environment for companies to bring jobs back to the U.S., and strengthens American competitiveness.

8. OTHER PRIORITIES: I remain focused on protecting our military installations and federal facilities, as well as bringing the new, consolidated FBI headquarters to Prince George's County. I am dedicated to improving Maryland schools and keeping them among the best in the nation, as well as investing in our infrastructure and protecting our natural resources.

Jason Summers (LBT)

Campaign Website:

summersformaryland5th.com

1. QUALIFICATIONS: I am a parent. I have three children. The laws we pass today have repercussions for generations to come. I want my children to live a life where they still know freedom. For them, I will not pass any law or add any regulation that will reduce their freedom. I also want them to live in a world that is safe. I will not vote to send our country to war unnecessarily.

2. ECONOMY: Reducing the complexity and cost of starting a business will enable low and middle income citizens to become self-employed owners. This will reduce the effects of unemployment and low-income wage slavery. End "Crony Capitalism" fueled government spending, which takes tax

dollars away from low and middle income citizens and gives it to the well-connected elite.

3. FOREIGN POLICY: The most pressing foreign policy issue we face is the perpetual and aimless war that we are engaged in the Middle East. This war has resulted in the deaths of thousands of US service members as well as an unknown number of innocent civilians abroad. We should immediately exit the Middle East. Afterwards, we should gradually close all other overseas military bases.

4. IMMIGRATION: Economic freedom demands the unrestricted movement of human as well as financial capital across national borders. All individuals that do not pose a credible threat to security, health, or property should be allowed entry into the country. There should be no restrictions on their right to work or start a business. This also should apply to all currently undocumented residents.

5. ENVIRONMENT: Protecting the environment requires a clear definition and enforcement of individual rights and responsibilities regarding resources like land, water, air, and wildlife. Where damages can be proven and quantified in a court of law, restitution to the injured parties must be required.

6. INEQUALITY: To reduce income inequality, eliminate government spending and regulations that disproportionately favor those with existing wealth. Remove regulations that make it difficult for individuals to go into business for themselves. To combat racial inequality, de-militarize the police, which disproportionately targets minorities. End prison sentences for victimless crimes.

7. TAX REFORM: Federal taxes should be the minimum required to maintain the essential functions of government. When practical, Federal income taxes should be replaced with user fees. As an example, the infrastructure needed to engage in financial regulation should be funded by transaction fees.

8. OTHER PRIORITIES: Education: Restore local control to education. End federally mandated testing and curriculum mandates. Government Transparency: Put the government's checkbook online. Each government transaction must cite as much detail as the IRS demands of citizens. Privacy: End government spying into the lives of US citizens. End Drug Prohibition: For all drugs, not just marijuana.

Duties: Judges preside in the Circuit Court, which is a trial court of general jurisdiction covering major civil cases and more serious criminal matters. Circuit Courts also may decide appeals from the District Court and certain administrative agencies.

How elected: The state is divided into 8 Judicial Circuits. The General Assembly determines the number of judges in each circuit and county. When there is a vacancy, the Governor appoints a qualified person to fill the office. Each newly appointed Circuit Court judge then must stand for office at the first election that occurs at least one year after the vacancy happened. One or more other qualified members of the bar may also run to fill the vacancy. All candidates run on both the Democratic and Republican primary ballots. The winners of each primary (equal to the number of seats to be filled) advance to the general election ballot, but without party designation.

Term: Fifteen years, no term limit. Mandatory retirement age of 70 years.

Salary: \$154,433.

Questions for Judges:

1. **QUALIFICATIONS:** How does your experience prepare you for the duties of a Judge of the Circuit Court?
2. **COURT NEEDS:** What are the areas of greatest need in Maryland's judicial system?
3. **ACCESS TO JUSTICE:** What actions would you propose to provide individuals with more access to the judicial system and legal assistance?
4. **EQUALITY:** What steps can the courts take to reduce the risk that prejudices may influence the outcome of legal proceedings?

Candidates

Vote for no more than 4.

Claudia Barber

Campaign Website:

judicialcampaignclaudiabarber.com

1. QUALIFICATIONS: For over ten years, I have adjudicated cases brought by government agencies. My legal career as judge and attorney spans 26 years including experience as a criminal and civil law litigator. As a judge, I am a public servant first. I provide fair and equitable service to people from all walks of life. My opinions address every argument raised by the parties.

2. COURT NEEDS: Two of the greatest needs are understanding mental health issues in criminal cases and maintaining a strong drug rehab program for first time offenders. Violent offenders must be incarcerated. Another critical need is to provide legal resource centers to litigants to ensure equal access to justice. The courts need to also ensure equity in sentencing.

3. ACCESS TO JUSTICE: Create special divisions in courts to address mental health, elderly matters, and legal resource centers with direct contact information. There should also be programs to simplify legal processes in order to make legal services more affordable.

4. EQUALITY: Judges should be aware of studies done reflecting racial or ethnic biases in the judicial system. Judges should have mandatory training by the National Judicial College on The Neuroscience of Implicit Bias. Judges should read The New Jim Crow by Michelle Alexander. Make sure sentencing is not uneven in any way just because someone of importance is before you. Fairness counts

Glenn Klavans

Campaign Website: 4JudgesStrong.com

1. QUALIFICATIONS: I spent 36 years in the practice of law, as a prosecutor in Baltimore for 10 years, and then in private practice in Anne Arundel County for 26 years. I have brought to the bench an uncommonly wide range of legal experience in criminal, civil, domestic and business law. As a sitting judge I have put that experience into daily practice on behalf of the citizens of Anne Arundel County.

2. COURT NEEDS: Our judicial system needs to better establish a comprehensive approach to both mental health and drug abuse treatment. These two of our society's greatest problems are reflected in many of the persons before the courts and a marshaling of programs and options would allow judges to best serve and protect the community. I especially see a need for a juvenile drug court in our county.

3. ACCESS TO JUSTICE: I am proud to say that in our county we have a fine public defender's office for criminal defendants, and an excellent lawyer referral service established by our bar association. Our bar library operates a wonderful self-help center for people without lawyers. But such self-help could be expanded to other locations throughout the county, if volunteers and resources could be identified.

4. EQUALITY: My fellow judges and I are mindful everyday of the risks presented by both overt prejudice and institutional prejudice. We have taken a sworn oath to render our duties without partiality or prejudice. Our vigilance, in every case, to carefully guard against any bias or prejudice from creeping into a proceeding is our best

defense. But public awareness is also key to fairness and justice.

Stacy W. McCormack

Campaign Website: 4judgesstrong.com

1. QUALIFICATIONS: I have been a practicing attorney for almost 20 years. The majority of my legal career was spent as an Assistant Public Defender handling criminal cases in the Court of Appeals, the Court of Special Appeals, as well as in the Circuit Court and District Court for Anne Arundel County. My experience in that area of law will be extremely valuable as criminal cases make up a large portion of our docket

2. COURT NEEDS: Our judicial system is in need of consistent and comprehensive treatment for individuals suffering from mental health and substance abuse issues. The overwhelming majority of individuals that come before the criminal court system are suffering from mental health and substance abuse issues. An increase in awareness of those issues and in programs to address those issues is definitely needed.

3. ACCESS TO JUSTICE: I would propose increasing the volunteer efforts of lawyers throughout our County to help provide individuals with more access to the judicial system and legal assistance. While we are fortunate to have an excellent lawyer referral service established by our bar association and a large pro-bono program, those services could be expanded to areas throughout the county with additional volunteers.

4. EQUALITY: Certainly the judges on our bench are mindful of the perception of prejudice in any legal proceedings. We have all taken a sworn oath to render our duties without partiality or prejudice and we abide by that oath everyday. The ability of the public to walk into a courtroom at any time and watch any legal proceeding certainly helps guard against bias or prejudice and educate the public.

Donna M. Schaeffer

Campaign Website: 4JudgesStrong.com

1. QUALIFICATIONS: As a trial attorney in the Anne Arundel County Circuit Court for nearly 30 years, I have participated in hundreds of trials and hearings and have extensive experience in the litigation process. Since my experience has been primarily in private practice, I am very attuned to the impact a court case can have on private citizens, and I am keenly aware of the import of judges' decisions.

2. COURT NEEDS: All citizens deserve equal access to justice and the fair, affordable and efficient administration of their court system. Maryland's judicial system must better insure that these needs are met for everyone. For criminal cases, public defenders are available to qualified

individuals. However, there is no similar service for the poor in civil matters such as divorce and domestic violence cases.

3. ACCESS TO JUSTICE: Some good pro bono and legal assistance programs currently exist, but those in need are often not aware of them. We need to better communicate these opportunities to the public. Also, attorneys need to be encouraged to volunteer their services more often, either through mandatory requirements or greater awareness.

4. EQUALITY: Courts need to conduct greater training and education of the judiciary to heighten awareness and acceptance of societal and cultural differences. Prejudice or decision-making patterns reflecting prejudice cannot be tolerated and must be met with immediate disciplinary action. The public needs to be aware of the reporting procedure for any improper judicial practices.

Cathy Vitale

Campaign Website: 4JudgesStrong.com

1. QUALIFICATIONS: Current Judge; 26 yrs private practice; 17 yrs Court mediator; 5 yrs State legislator; 11 yrs County Councilmember. I have practiced, advocated, and legislated the law & now as a Judge I interpret and enforce it, handle both the traditional cases as well as matters arising from State and local law which include zoning, personnel issues, and challenges to laws enacted by the State legislature.

2. COURT NEEDS: Ensuring that litigants are given the benefit of adequate legal representation and full access to the judicial system; The Courts should develop & implement initiatives to expand access to & enhance the quality of justice for persons who need language, educational and legal assistance; restoring confidence in the judicial system & continuing to insist that judges are competent, fair & impartial

3. ACCESS TO JUSTICE: Consult with community members with barriers to understand the needs; Expansion of free self-help services, online access to attorneys through a volunteer "call a lawyer" program; increase access to the pro-bono clinic; expand AA County's community law day (at AACC); develop a monthly community based law day; expand access to language interpreters to assist in document preparation & filings

4. EQUALITY: Require judges & staff to participate in implicit bias training sessions including educational programs on racial, gender and ethnic diversity; create "bench cards" which judges can use for checks & balance on best practices or questions during proceedings; permit independent review of cases and decisions for data and benchmarks to assist the Court in addressing promptly any real/perceived bias

Appellate Judge

Questions for Judges:

1. COURT NEEDS: What are the areas of greatest need in Maryland's judicial system?
2. ACCESS TO JUSTICE: What actions would you support to provide individuals with more access to the judicial system and legal assistance?
3. EQUALITY: What steps can the courts take to reduce the risk that prejudices may influence the outcome of legal proceedings?

Court of Appeals

Duties: The Court of Appeals is the highest court in the State (commonly called the Supreme Court in other states and at the federal level). It hears cases almost exclusively by way of certiorari, a process which gives the court discretion to decide which cases to hear. However, the Court of Appeals is mandated by law to hear cases involving the death penalty, legislative redistricting, removal of certain officers, and certifications of questions of law.

Salary: \$176,433 annual base.

Term: Ten years, no term limit. Mandatory retirement age of 70 years.

How Elected: Members of the Court are initially appointed by the Governor and confirmed by the Senate. Subsequently, they run for office on their records, unopposed. If voters reject a judge's retention in office or there is a tie vote, the office becomes vacant and must be filled by a new appointment. Otherwise, the incumbent judge remains in office for a ten-year term. The Court is composed of seven judges, with one elected from each of seven judicial circuits.

Circuit 5 Candidate

Vote yes or no for continuance in office.

Clayton Greene Jr.

No response received by deadline.

Court of Special Appeals

Duties: Judges preside in the Court of Special Appeals, the intermediate appellate court in Maryland. The Court reviews the actions and decisions of the Circuit Court and of the Orphans' Court in cases brought before it. The Court, usually sitting in panels of three judges, decides if the trial judge followed the law and legal precedent.

Salary: \$163,633 annual base.

Term: Ten years, no term limit. Mandatory retirement age of 70 years.

How Elected: When there is a vacancy on the Court of Special Appeals, the governor appoints a qualified person to fill the office, with the consent of the State Senate. Once appointed, the appellate judge holds the office until the first election that occurs at least one year after the vacancy happened. At that time, the judge runs for an uncontested election for a ten-year term on their record (yes or no for continuance in office). No one is permitted to file against them. If the incumbent judge is approved, the judge faces another "retention election" every ten years to continue in office. If the incumbent judge is rejected by the voters, the post becomes vacant, and the governor makes a new appointment. The Court is composed of 15 judges: eight at large and one each from seven appellate judicial districts.

At Large Candidate

Vote yes or no for continuance in office.

Dan Friedman

No response received by deadline.

Circuit 5 Candidate

Vote yes or no for continuance in office.

Timothy E. Meredith

No response received by deadline.

Anne Arundel County Board of Education

Membership: The Board is comprised of nine members: five adult Members, each of whom resides in a different legislative district (Districts 30, 31, 32, 33, and that part of District 21 that lies within Anne Arundel County); three adult Members appointed from the county at-large; and one Student Member, who is a regularly enrolled senior-year student of good character and in good standing in a public county high school. With the exception of the Student Member, all Board Members must be registered voters of Anne Arundel County and may not be an employee or contractor of the Board.

Selection: The adult Members are appointed by the Governor from a list of nominees submitted by the School Board Nominating Commission of Anne Arundel County. The Student Member is elected to the Board by the Chesapeake Regional Association of Student Councils (CRASC), and confirmed and appointed by the Governor.

Duties: The powers and mandatory duties of the Board are divided into executive, legislative and quasi-judicial responsibilities. They include, but are not limited to the following: selecting and appointing the Superintendent of Schools; appointing personnel; continuous appraisal of the educational and administrative management of the school system; communicating and meeting with community members, staff and students; ratifying collective bargaining agreements; adopting policies, budgets, and courses of study; establishing school boundaries; making decisions on facility, procurement and financial matters; and deciding appeals.

Term of Office: The eight adult Members are appointed to a term of five years, and continue to serve until a successor is appointed and qualifies, subject to the approval or rejection of registered voters at the next general election following appointment. The Student Member is elected for a one-year term beginning July 1, and continues to serve until a successor is appointed and qualifies.

Base compensation: \$6,000 per year

Questions:

1. Discuss your qualifications for, and contributions to, the Board of Education.
2. What do you consider the greatest strength and most concerning weakness of our county's education system? What steps do you propose to remedy the latter?
3. Are you in favor of county-funded financial assistance for private schools? Explain why or why not.

VOTE YES OR NO FOR CONTINUANCE IN OFFICE

Candidates At Large

Vote yes or no for continuance in office.

Thomas H. Frank

No response received by deadline.

Julie K. Hummer

No response received by deadline.

Candidate District 30

Vote yes or no for continuance in office.

Maria Delores Sasso

No response received by deadline.

Candidate District 31

Vote yes or no for continuance in office.

Terry R. Gilleland Jr.

No response received by deadline.

Candidate District 33

Vote yes or no for continuance in office.

Eric Grannon

No response received by deadline.

Ballot Questions

Background: In November, county voters will be asked to mark their ballots **FOR** or **AGAINST** one amendment to the Maryland Constitution and six amendments to the Anne Arundel County Charter. These amendments have been passed by the state legislature and county council, respectively, but must be approved by voters before they become part of the state constitution or county charter. They are presented on the ballot as questions. In the following explanations, the text of the proposed amendments that will appear on the ballot appears in bold type.

Maryland Statewide

QUESTION 1

Appointments and Special Elections for Attorney General and Comptroller
Constitutional Amendment (Ch. 511 of the 2016 Legislative Session)
Amending Article V, Section 5 and Article VI, Section 1 of the Maryland Constitution

Changes the way the Governor fills a vacancy of the Attorney General or the Comptroller and requires a special election for vacancies that occur on or before a certain date. Under current law, the Governor fills a vacancy by appointing an individual to serve for the remainder of the term. Under the amended law, if the vacating Attorney General or Comptroller was a member of a political party, the Governor must fill the vacancy from a list of three names provided by the political party of the vacating official, and if no names are provided by the political party within a set time period, then the Governor must select a successor from the political party of the vacating official. If the vacating Attorney General or Comptroller was not a member of a political party, then the amended law requires the Governor to appoint any qualified individual. The Governor must make the appointment within a set time period following the vacancy. The amended law requires a special election to replace the successor if the vacancy occurs early enough in the term to allow for candidates to participate in the regular elections held in the second year of the vacating official's term.

Origin of the Amendment: The 2016 session of the General Assembly passed legislation (HB 260) proposing a constitutional amendment to change how vacancies in the offices of Attorney General and Comptroller will be filled. A bill that amends the Maryland Constitution requires a three/fifth vote in each chamber (Maryland Senate and House of Delegates) and approval by the voters at the next general election.

Present Practice: Under the Maryland Constitution, when a vacancy occurs in the office of the Attorney General or Comptroller, the Governor appoints a person to serve for the rest of that term. Appointment of the Comptroller also requires the approval of the Maryland Senate. The Governor is not required to choose someone of the same political affiliation as the person being replaced. There also is no provision for the voters to choose someone to fill a vacancy in either office through a special election, no matter how much time is left in the term of office.

Proposed Change: The Governor would be required to appoint a replacement Attorney General or Comptroller within 30 days of the vacancy, with someone from a list of three persons submitted by the State Central Committee of the political party of the previous office holder. (If the person being replaced was not affiliated with a political party, the Governor could appoint any qualified person.) The appointed person would serve for the rest of the original term if the vacancy occurs in the last two years of the term. However, if the vacancy occurs six weeks before a scheduled presidential primary (that is, there are more than two years remaining in the term) a special election would be held as part of the presidential election process.

Arguments FOR the amendment:

- The person appointed by the Governor must be of the same political affiliation as the person being replaced. This reflects the preferences of the voters when they chose the Attorney General or Comptroller at the last election.
- If there are more than two years left in the term, the voters are able to choose who will fill the office at special elections held at the same time as the next presidential primary and general elections.
- By choosing the new official at the same time as the scheduled elections, there would be no

additional costs for conducting separate special elections.

- It is likely that many more voters would participate if the vacancy is filled at a regularly scheduled election, than if the special elections were held at a separate time.

Arguments AGAINST the amendment:

- Requiring the Governor to appoint someone recommended by a political party central committee gives power to a small group of people elected only by members of that political party.
- Under current rules, the Governor may appoint a qualified person of any political affiliation.
- Holding a special election to choose someone to fill the last two years of a term when the Governor has already appointed a replacement may result in frequent changes in leadership.

A vote FOR the constitutional amendment means the Maryland Constitution would be amended to (1) require the Governor to fill a vacancy for Attorney General or Comptroller with someone from the same political affiliation as the person being replaced; and (2) require that a replacement be elected at the same time as the presidential election if more than two years are left in the term.

A vote AGAINST the constitutional amendment means the Maryland Constitution would not be amended. When a vacancy occurs, the Governor may appoint someone of any political affiliation to fill the rest of the term of Attorney General or Comptroller.

Anne Arundel County

QUESTION A

Charter Amendment: Compilation of Laws

To amend the Anne Arundel County Charter to remove the requirement of recodifying the Anne Arundel County Code at least every ten years.

Origin of the Amendment: County Executive

Present Practice: The County Code is supplemented and codified on an ongoing basis, and is readily available in both paper and electronic formats.

Proposed Change: The present practice will continue and the Charter will be updated to remove an obsolete requirement.

Pro: The requirement in the Charter is obsolete because electronic methods allow ongoing compilation of the laws. This amendment corrects the Charter to reflect present-day technology and norms.

Con: None

A vote **FOR** the amendment removes the requirement that the entire County Code be recodified every ten years. A vote **AGAINST** the amendment retains the requirement for recodification of the County Code every ten years. (Resolution 6-16, passed April 4, 2016)

QUESTION B

Charter Amendment: Effective Date of Ordinances - Appropriations

To amend the Anne Arundel County Charter to provide that ordinances related to transfers of appropriations under Charter Section 711, supplementary appropriations under Charter Section 712, and amendments of the capital budget under Charter Section 716 shall take effect when they become law.

Origin of the Amendment: County Executive

Present Practice: The Charter imposes a 45 day wait period for routine appropriations bills to take effect after becoming law; only emergency ordinances become effective immediately upon signing. To avoid the delay in funding, some appropriations bills are currently designated emergency ordinances.

Proposed Change: Ordinances for routine appropriations will become effective immediately upon becoming law.

Pro: This amendment will expedite routine fund transfers, and eliminate confusion with actual emergency appropriations.

Con: Appropriations bills that amend the approved budget for routine expenditures will no longer be subject to a 45 day wait period.

A vote **FOR** the amendment allows ordinances related to transfer of appropriations, supplemental appropriations, and amendments to the capital budget to become effective immediately upon signing (the date they become law), thereby removing the necessity of a 45 day wait period for ordinances other than emergency ordinances to become effective.

A vote **AGAINST** the amendment leaves the effective date of ordinances related to transfer of appropriations, supplemental appropriations, and amendments to the capital budget as it is currently in the Charter, 45 days after becoming law, unless designated an emergency ordinance.

(Resolution 7-16, passed April 4, 2016)

QUESTION C

Charter Amendment: Purchasing Contract Limits

To amend the County Charter to permit the County Council to increase the minimum value of purchases and contracts requiring competitive bidding from \$25,000 to an amount up to \$75,000.

Origin of the Amendment: County Executive

Present Practice: Purchases valued at \$25,000 or more require a formal sealed bidding process. For lesser amounts down to \$5,000, the County generally seeks three written, but unsealed, bids.

Proposed Change: A full competitive bidding process would only be required on purchases of \$75,000 or more.

Pro: Raising the floor for full competitive bidding to \$75,000 will make the purchasing process less costly and more efficient, and will apply to a large percentage of County purchases and contracts. Most purchases under \$75,000 will still be subject to competition with unsealed, written bids. Anne Arundel County's current minimum for competitive procurement is lower than most county jurisdictions in Maryland.

Con: Not requiring a full competitive procurement process for purchases between \$25,000 and \$75,000 may disadvantage small businesses. Savings resulting from formal competitive bidding sometimes offset the added cost of administration.

A vote **FOR** the amendment raises the minimum dollar amount of procurement contracts requiring full competitive bidding from \$25,000 to \$75,000.

A vote **AGAINST** the amendment keeps \$25,000 as the minimum dollar amount of procurement contracts requiring full competitive bidding.

(Resolution 8-16, passed April 4, 2016)

QUESTION D

Charter Amendment: Budgetary and Fiscal Procedures - Pre-Submission Public Meetings

To amend the Anne Arundel County Charter to require the County Executive to hold two public meetings on the proposed County budget no later than 30 days before the start of the annual legislative session of the County Council, before submission to the County Council.

Origin of the Amendment: County Council

Present Practice: There is currently no requirement for public meetings and input on the County budget during its preparation by the County Executive (budget season). The County Executive may choose to hold town hall meetings to receive public comment.

Proposed Change: The County Executive would be required to hold two public meetings during

the budget season to hear public comments and proposals for inclusion.

Pro: This requirement would provide members of the public an opportunity to express budgetary priorities and concerns to the County Executive before the proposed budget is finalized for submission to County Council.

Con: The public is able to submit comments to the County Executive through calls, letters and social media without the cost of a meeting.

A vote **FOR** the amendment requires the County Executive to hold at least two public meetings during the budget season in order to receive public comment and proposals for inclusion in the proposed County budget. A vote **AGAINST** the amendment leaves the Charter as it is with no requirement for the County Executive to hold public meetings during budget season. (Resolution 30-16, passed June 6, 2016)

QUESTION E

Charter Amendment: The County Executive - Powers and Duties of Office - Director of Programming

To amend the Anne Arundel County Charter to change the title of Director of Programming to Economic Development Officer in Section 405 of the Charter.

Origin of the Amendment: County Executive

Present Practice: The Economic Development Officer performs the duties of the office of Director of Programming as enumerated in the Charter. The title Director of Programming is no longer in use.

Proposed Change: The title for this office is updated to Economic Development Officer in the Charter.

Pro: This amendment replaces an obsolete title with the title presently in use.

Con: None.

A vote **FOR** the amendment changes the title of Director of Programming in the Charter to the currently used title of Economic Development Officer.

A vote **AGAINST** the amendment keeps the obsolete title of Director of Programming in the Charter. (Resolution 31-16, passed July 5, 2016)

QUESTION F

Charter Amendment: Interim Notes

To amend the Anne Arundel County Charter to allow the County Council to pass ordinances authorizing the issuance of interim notes to temporarily fund appropriations for capital projects.

Origin of the Amendment: County Executive

Present Practice: After the County's Capital Budget is adopted in June, County Council must pass a bond authorization ordinance, which takes effect 45 days after becoming law. This process can take several months become of bill preparation time and the Council's schedule. Projects cannot advance until the bond authorization is in effect.

Proposed Change: The County Council will be able to authorize the issuance of interim notes to provide temporary financing of a capital project in advance of the bond authorization bill taking effect. The notes must be paid off by June 30 of the fiscal year following the fiscal year in which they were issued.

Pro: Funding from interim notes will allow projects in the capital budget, such as school construction, to proceed in a timely manner and will prevent costly delay.

Con: In the unlikely event that County Council failed to pass the capital bond authorization bill, interim notes would have to be paid back from available funds.

A vote **FOR** the amendment allows the County Council, at its discretion, to authorize interim notes during the time period between passage of the annual budget and the effective date of the bond bill.

A vote **AGAINST** the amendment leaves the current Charter requirements for Bond Issue Authorization Ordinances which does not allow for interim notes. (Resolution 43-16, passed July 18, 2016)

CONGRESSIONAL CANDIDATES FORUM

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★ FOR MARYLAND DISTRICT 3 ★★★★★★★★★★★★★★



MARK PLASTER (Republican Party)



JOHN SARBANES (Democratic Party)



NNABU EZE (Green Party)

VOTERS OF ANNE ARUNDEL COUNTY

**Ask questions.
Get answers.
Hear issues defined.**

★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★★

WEDNESDAY, OCTOBER 26, 2016 // 7 PM-9 PM

Woods Memorial Presbyterian | Church Auditorium
611 Baltimore Annapolis Boulevard
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FORUM MODERATOR:

Susan Kopen Katcef

Broadcast Bureau Director, Capital
News Service, Philip Merrill College
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Internet down? No computer? NO PROBLEM!

The League of Women Voters of Anne Arundel County's print *Voters' Guide* for the 2016 General Election may be found at the reference desk of your local public library, and on the League's website, lwvaacmd.org. Copies are also available by request; email lwvaacmd@gmail.com. If requesting a copy by regular mail, please allow time for delivery; the General Election is on Tuesday, November 8, 2016, from 7 AM to 8 PM.

VOTE411.org and the print *Voters' Guide* for the 2016 General Election are provided as a public service by the 501(c)(3) Education Fund of the League of Women Voters of Anne Arundel County. Tax-deductible contributions in support of these valuable voter resources are greatly appreciated, and may be sent to the treasurer.

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