

ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS/RESPONSES for REPUBLICAN PRIMARY – from Vote411.org

US SENATE: 4/11/2016 – no responses: John R. Graziani, Greg Holmes or Anthony Seda
RESPONSES from Kathy Szeliga now on Vote411.org (missed print deadline)

Campaign Website <http://kathyformaryland.com>

1. QUALIFICATIONS: How does your experience prepare you for the duties of a Senator?

Kathy Szeliga 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: What economic policies would you support to assist low and middle income citizens?

Kathy Szeliga 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: What are the most important foreign policy issues and how would you address them?

Kathy Szeliga 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: What changes, if any, would you support in immigration policy?

Kathy Szeliga 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: What is the most pressing environmental problem and what measures would you support to address it?

Kathy Szeliga 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%.

KATHY SZELIGA's RESPONSES to Questions 6 – 8 are listed on next pages, along with other Republican responses that only appear on Vote411.org

6. INEQUALITY: What policies would you support to address increasing concern about economic, racial, and social inequality?

Chris Chaffee We need to strengthen family values, support education, treating each other as equals and with respect. There is only one race; the human race.

Sean P. Connor Redistribution of Politicians, and a campaign of Individual Personal Responsibility. Much of this is due to career politicians, and their coziness with special interests. Much is due to people not being thoughtful, respectful, and considerate in everyday interactions. Honest pay for honest work, treat people as you would be treated, dont worry about the "Jone's".

Richard J. Douglas The most effective antidote to economic, racial, and social inequality is upward mobility for all Marylanders and the hope of a dignified job, a home, and a future. The Maryland General Assembly could have taken a step toward that goal at the beginning of its 2016 session, but instead chose marijuana. Not a word was heard about this from Maryland's Capitol Hill delegation. That's unacceptable.

Joseph David Hooe In America, truly anyone can succeed. We need senators who can build partnerships with the business community in order to create jobs, which will help end the culture of violence that is destroying the sense of community needed to provide the best opportunities for the people who need them the most, especially our young people who are currently simply trying to survive everyday life.

Chrys Kefalas Improving education and expanding economic opportunity will reduce inequality in the Maryland and in the Unites States. That's why I will lead in Washington to create jobs, renew manufacturing in Maryland, and better our schools. I trust the people of Maryland to get our education system right.

Mark McNicholas Being in the mortgage industry for 14 years I have seen first-hand the impact federal regulation has had on the housing industry. The effects of FHA "redlining" can still be found today in Maryland's housing market. Examples like these are why I believe the Federal Government is rarely the best institution to address social inequalities. Student loans are an instance where we can make changes.

Lynn Richardson Economic disparity comes from a serious lack of opportunity available for several regions of our state. Some people think the government must provide all their answers, needs and wants. It is not the job of the federal government to do this. Each jurisdiction must define and solve matters as they pertain to their own area, because they are better equipped to know what they need.

Kathy Szeliga 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.

Dave Wallace Inequality is the result of anti-competitive tax and regulatory laws. Cutting taxes and regulations will allow businesses to hire and prosper, and that is the ticket to restoring the middle class. There is little that can't be cured with a 5% growth rate. The Obama-Bernie Sanders-Chris Van Hollen-Donna Edwards 'tax-spend-and-food stamp' agenda leads straight to national bankruptcy and poverty.

Garry Thomas Yarrington Candidate has not yet responded to this question.

7. TAX REFORM: What changes, if any, would you support in federal tax policy?

Chris Chaffee I would simplify the tax plan and support a 10% flat tax across the board. I would keep the mortgage deduction, increase the education deduction, reduce the size of the IRS and abolish the affordable care act.

Sean P. Connor Remove Federal Income Tax, and reduce the IRS and Treasury Department. If that is not achievable, I would support either a flat, fair, or sales tax Stay At Home Parenting Tax credit. Utility Bills and car payments would be tax deductible just like a mortgage.

Richard J. Douglas Lower. Easier. More equitable. Now.

Joseph David Hooe What government can do to help this process is to stop raising taxes on individuals and instead find ways to reward businesses to provide as many incentives as possible to succeed. We need to build partnerships with the business community to put as many people to work as possible, and we need to find ways to reward businesses for creating and implementing fair compensation policies.

Chrys Kefalas The 74,000 pages of the tax code are unreadable. Only those who can afford legal teams can discover the myriad of loopholes and write-offs, meaning we have a virtual pay-to-play system that rigs the system against working families. As your Senator, I will fight to lower taxes and overhaul the tax code to simplify personal income and business taxes.

Mark McNicholas I believe the system we have today needs to be simplified but we should maintain a progressive tax at its core. I have no interest in further taxing the middle class with a head tax or a flat tax. The consumption taxes we have in place now are already regressive so the last thing we need to do is implement a program that shifts more of the tax burden onto middle class working Americans.

Lynn Richardson While proposed in many ways over the past 20 years (ineffectively,) why would it be so hard to eliminate federal income tax, for the currently shrinking workforce, and just have a 10% national sales tax on all consumer goods? The IRS workers become sales tax collectors and 20 million underground workers and criminals are suddenly contributing to the income. They all eat food.

Kathy Szeliga 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.

Dave Wallace Our economy is terribly burdened by having the highest corporate taxes in the developed world, making any other country more attractive in this global economy. I will lead legislative efforts to cut this tax burden as well as encourage the repatriation of foreign income. That will help bring jobs back to Maryland from China, and make American-made products cheaper.

Garry Thomas Yarrington Candidate has not yet responded.

8. OTHER PRIORITIES: What other issues are priorities for you?

Chris Chaffee My other priorities are term limits for congress and senate; stop the special interest group's money from going to politicians. Ensure our President, congress and senate are following the constitution and stop using executive orders.

Sean P. Connor Promote Volunteerism in current existing non profit organisations Student Debt and the exaggerated cost of Education Engage businesses to have apprenticeships for those not suited to a Liberal Arts Education. Repeal and replace the Affordable Care Act, and de-couple Healthcare from businesses, make it open and competitive across all the States. Strengthen our Military...it has been weakened.

Richard J. Douglas My highest priority in the U.S. Senate will be to bring economic prosperity to Maryland. Our state has the human capital and the geographic position to accomplish this. But our U.S. congressional delegation lacks the will. I will change that. People losing homes on the courthouse steps in Upper Marlboro aren't thinking about ISIS or Sergey Magnitsky. They need a U.S. Senator who gets that.

Joseph David Hooe Gerrymandering is, in my opinion, one of the most offensive practices in politics and all voters should be incensed at the mere mention of the word. We need a redistricting process that places communities in common sense, fair and symmetric boundaries so that no person, public servant or community leader is unfairly deprived of the opportunity to help make a difference.

Chrys Kefalas People in our state can't see the American Dream because they're stuck in a nightmare. That's why criminal justice reform is close to my heart. I had the honor of leading on this issue with Governor Ehrlich--long before it was politically popular to do--and with our nation's last Democratic Attorney General. As your Senator, I will work aggressively to end the epidemic of drugs.

Mark McNicholas The citizens of MD care about are the people of Flint, MI. People living in the US without clean drinking water is beyond upsetting. Maryland has some aging infrastructure currently in a state of disrepair. Last year 28 bridges were called "structurally deficient" and I think that is unacceptable. Today it is MI, tomorrow it could be MD. Building relationships will help secure the funds needed.

Lynn Richardson Health care that makes sense is a very important to solve. National security is vital, but it must be done without crushing our constitutional rights. It is critical. to our survival as a strong nation, that our representatives once again begin to build relationships and consensus. One can't go there to just fight the other guys. It's been too long since important matters are actually solved.

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

Dave Wallace You can trust that on the first day, I will introduce legislation to completely repeal Obamacare, and replace it with sound conservative market-based reforms so you CAN keep your policy and your own doctor—and don't have to be afraid Obamacare death panels will deny care for your loved ones. That's the American way.

Garry Thomas Yarrington we need to have a better mental health issue and programs to stop the killing of our own people. get hold of the se isswues and deal with same . .more jobs here in this country and make sure we require that we make other countrys spend as much from us as we buy from than period. we can 't do the wrlds fighting for than they must do there fair share of fighting, period. don't let our wo

U.S. Representative District 3:

RESPONSES to Questions 6 – 8, only available in Vote411.org, are listed below.

6. INEQUALITY: What policies would you support to address increasing concern about economic, racial, and social inequality?

Thomas E. "Pinkston" Harris Most of the economic, racial, and social inequality is self imposed. We must impress upon our children that it's their personal responsibility to rise above their circumstances. Not make babies out of marriage. Get as much education as they can. And to strive for their highest heights. Most of the racial and social inequality imaginary. Fear and paranoia stirred up by the Democrats to keep power.

Mark Plaster 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: What changes, if any, would you support in federal tax policy?

Thomas E. "Pinkston" Harris I favor a national sales tax. This would mean everybody would have some skin in the game. Even the blackmarketeers, dope dealers and those flourishing in the underground economy would pay a tax.

Mark Plaster 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: What other issues are priorities for you?

Thomas E. "Pinkston" Harris We must rebuild our military. Rehire all the warrior Generals Obama fired. Stop using the military for social experimentation. Obama's obsession with genitalia issues is weakening our military. We have huge supplies of fossil fuels. Everybody else is using theirs. We must use ours. Approve the Keystone pipeline. It'll create over 20,000 jobs.

Mark Plaster 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.

U.S. Representative District 6: 4/11/2016 – no responses from Amie Hoerber

RESPONSES to Questions 6 – 8, only available in Vote411.org, are listed below on next pages

6. INEQUALITY: What policies would you support to address increasing concern about economic, racial, and social inequality?

Terry L. Baker First, I would support ending Affirmative Action and any other policy that judges people based on the color of their skin. I also believe that real leadership in the United States is a great place to start bridging the divide. Policies that continue to keep people dependent on the government for all aspects of their lives is the real injustice in our society. We need to change that ideology.

Scott Cheng We have to restore fairness and common sense of our economic and social system.

Robin Ficker I treat all people fairly. Insist on equal pay for women, equal educational and job opportunities for all. Enforce anti-discrimination laws. Body cameras for police protect all. Fight insider trading. Was attorney in successful landmark Federal case against County Attorney which halted physique and facial feature ratings and stopped questions about child care arrangements and marital status.

Frank Howard There has been much talk about the top 1% - corporate CEO's, hedge fund managers and the like. I will focus on the bottom 15%, the 46 million Americans trapped in poverty who need jobs. Tax reform and regulatory relief will get the economy growing again which will create jobs and prosperity for low and middle income citizens.

Christopher James Mason I would get rid of the special rights under the Civil Rights Act passed by the vastly liberal President LBJ. I would crush the racist affirmative actions policies. We would support the merit based system. The best person gets the job. No more racism against the Caucasian race.

Harold Painter A rising economy for our working families will alleviate many forms of inequality. This can be accomplished by slashing taxes on the lower tax brackets, bringing manufacturing jobs back to America and stopping illegal workers from undercutting the wage base of working families.

7. TAX REFORM: What changes, if any, would you support in federal tax policy?

Terry L. Baker The IRS and current tax code system is far too complicated. This is a system that inherently punishes hard working people, and redistribution of wealth by way of the federal tax system is wrong. We need a flat tax that equally applies the same rate no matter how much you make. Unfair taxing of businesses, and entrepreneurs, is also wrong, as it stifles innovation, growth and job creation.

Scott Cheng Reduce Individual income tax, make tax code simple, fair and clear. Cut incorporate tax so that our America business are more competitive than other countries. To encourage incorporate to invest and create jobs, allow businesses to fully and immediately deduct new capital investments. Increase tax deduction for parents paying out of pocket for their children's College educational costs.

Robin Ficker We have a \$19 trillion debt and a \$500 billion deficit this year. Obviously we have to control spending. I joined with Larry Hogan to oppose Maryland's 40+ tax increases because

Maryland Democrats are tax-increase specialists. They only increase spending, not cut the deficit. The tax code is way too complicated and almost more loophole than law. I will always support simplification.

Frank Howard I have a five-year plan that puts the country on a glide path toward the boldest tax reform agenda this country has seen in 100 years. First, we collapse several income tax brackets into no more than four. Then, annually we evaluate a flat tax and eventually a fair tax based on the impact on federal revenues.

Christopher James Mason I would support a consumption tax with no more taxes on income.

Harold Painter We should slash the tax rates on the lower tax brackets.

The revenue loss can be offset by limiting the life time amount of capital gains and the annual amount of dividends eligible for the reduced tax rate.

Also, the definition of "long term" gains eligible for the reduced tax rate should be lengthened from one year to three years.

8. OTHER PRIORITIES: What other issues are priorities for you?

Terry L. Baker As a lifelong educator, I feel that it is important to limit the role of the federal government on our educational system. I feel that the education of our children should be left up to the parents, and the school systems, in which the parents decide their children go to. Schools are the very cornerstone of every community across our country, and it's important to have the proper balance.

Scott Cheng Economic growth, job creation and national security are my priorities.

Robin Ficker Emphasize two new reversible lanes in median strip of I-270 from Frederick all the way south, widen I-81 thru Maryland, improve 220, Oldtown Road. Improve Hagerstown and Cumberland Airports. Get Western Maryland Moving!

Unlike my newcomer opponents, I actually live and work in Md 6th and am regularly in Western Maryland Courts. I am the only attorney, farmer, & real estate broker in this race.

Frank Howard I have a 10-point plan to reform Congress so it is capable of doing the people's business. Congress is gripped by chaos and dysfunction, and my plan will enable it to effectively tackle problems and get back to doing meaningful things that improve life for the American people.

Christopher James Mason I would de-fund Unplanned Parenthood. I would also jail their leaders.

Harold Painter Our annual budget must be balanced. The national debt must be reduced. Social Security should be shored up by adopting needs based standards that phase it out for those with ample investment or retirement income

U.S. Representative District 8: 4/11/2016 – no responses from Amie Hoeber

RESPONSES to Questions 6 – 8, only available in Vote411.org, are listed below and on next pages

Dan Cox As an employment discrimination law attorney, I support ending color-based and gender-based promotions, while at the same time mandating equal pay for equal work. Whenever there is a question of equality in promotion or pay, an employee should have the right to obtain via the EEOC process documents demonstrating the pay levels of other similar redacted employees. Currently the EEOC decides.

Jeffrey W. Jones Some laws will help to end discrimination. But we also need aggressive efforts to convince each other of the value in all our lives. Public service announcements have a place to play in convincing us to get over negative attitudes that harm relationships. The power of mature adults is that we recognize our dependence on others, and that requires that we treat all others fairly.

Liz Matory Now is the time to live up to our virtues; everyone can tap into her God-given potential and thrive. We must make sure we learn from our history, appreciate our commonality and differences to move forward together. Our economy must be open and accessible to everyone. Generational wealth, sexism, racism alter the game, but I believe that lack of resources and opportunity proliferates division.

Aryeh Shudofsky Education is a great equalizer. We need to ensure all students, no matter their background, are receiving the same high-level education to prepare them for life. No child should be deprived of a quality education because his family lacks the resources to send him to a quality school. I will also focus on creating jobs and job-training to give all people the tools to move up the economic ladder.

Shelly Skolnick Improve Social Security benefits by (a) removing the income cap on the social security withholding tax, and (b) increasing the max age from 70 to 75 for the annual 8% increase in monthly benefit. A new variable LIFE INSURANCE POLICY equal to 50% of the age 62 monthly benefit for every month from age 62 to when a person starts their monthly benefit. The policy decreases by the benefits received.

7. TAX REFORM: What changes, if any, would you support in federal tax policy?

Dan Cox Jobs and economic mobility are essential to our economy and a flat tax eases the burdens for all, putting instant money in the pockets of the working middle class, and freeing up investment and business capital for amazing job growth potential estimated by the Tax Foundation to produce 12.2% increase in wages in our pockets, and close to 5 million new jobs. I would also end the death tax.

Jeffrey W. Jones a simplification of tax policies. Some taxes should be passed directly onto the consumer such as sales taxes, where only the actual user/purchaser pays for them. Other simplification measures are needed. Six or Eight tiers and less exclusion from taxes might help. Lowering taxes for the middle class will stimulate purchases which will stimulate the economy in many ways. Deficit spending addressed.

Liz Matory Since 20% of our population pays 87% of the taxes, I believe it is about time to reform our tax and spending policy. People think that conservatives are heartless technocrats who do not

have care about poor people. Not true, we want to help move people up and out of poverty, not stay dependent. We believe that when government takes hard earned income from its citizens, it should respect its value.

Aryeh Shudofsky There are several things that need immediate doing: simplify the tax code so doing your taxes isn't so complicated; remove poverty traps that work against hardworking Americans striving to improve their lives; work tax credit payments into paychecks for low income Americans; and incentivize business development and investment through tax credits and tax incentives.

Shelly Skolnick Change income tax rates to 5%, 10%, 15%, 20% and 25%. Eliminate capital gains tax rate, federal tax free bonds, carried interest, and other special tax rates for specific types of income. End the HIGH SPEAKING FEE tax loophole by limiting non-profit's total payment for a speech to \$5,000 and limiting for-profit corporation's tax deduction for payment of a speech to \$5,000.

8. OTHER PRIORITIES: What other issues are priorities for you?

Dan Cox I would end common core and increase education opportunities for families with tax credits and vouchers, while not reducing funding for public schools through additional set-asides to cover voucher programs. I would reduce deficit spending and begin paying down our national debt through systemic waste reduction of bloated federal agencies.

Jeffrey W. Jones Transportation issues are a big concern. Further development of public transportation will be necessary. The infrastructure of roads and bridges must be addressed, getting products to market, getting employees to work. Getting to educational and recreational opportunities are necessary if we are going to Do Better. Our health and our ability to solve problems require our being able to get places.

Liz Matory Election Reform - end the practice of gerrymandering, support open primaries, campaign finance (small donor matching), term limits

Sentencing Reform - end long- term incarceration for non-violent crime, increase mental health and addiction services. Prison should not just be for punishment, but also for rehabilitation. Returning citizens should have access to life/career training to stop cycle.

Aryeh Shudofsky Washington is broken and we need to focus on holding Washington accountable to voters. To do that, I support introducing transparency, openness, and visibility to the halls of Congress. I am also a big supporter of Israel's right to exist and to defend herself. Finally, I want to encourage public-private partnerships for much-needed transportation and infrastructure projects.

Shelly Skolnick Fix METRO by federal grants to (a) construct Bus Rider Buildings at MetroRail stations to increase use of commuter and local buses, and (b) support a pilot program of 50% Hush Hour fares immediately before and after revised weekday rush hours to reduce congestion. Paid maternity leave of 8 weeks through the federal/state unemployment insurance program. Medicare option for all veterans.