



33 University Boulevard East
Silver Spring, MD 20901

www.progressivemaryland.org

 contact@progressivemaryland.org

 facebook.com/progressivemaryland

 [@Progressive_MD](https://twitter.com/Progressive_MD)

2018 Questionnaire for the House of Delegates

Progressive Maryland is a grassroots community organization that acts for social and economic justice by developing civic leaders and cultivating allies in order to advance economic, racial, and environmental equity, and to change our economic system for the benefit of all people in Maryland. Learn more at www.ProgressiveMaryland.org

Progressive Maryland supports candidates who will work to build a society and economy that works for all Marylanders, with special emphasis on traditionally marginalized groups—low and moderate income residents, people of color, women, LGBTQ+, and all oppressed and exploited people. Elections can have an enormous impact on our work to reduce inequity and to improve the lives of residents all over the state. It is our responsibility not only to advocate for residents but also to empower them to engage in the political process at every level, from member-led canvasses to trainings for our members who wish to run for office.

To be considered for Progressive Maryland's endorsement, please return the completed questionnaire to our Policy and Legislative Director Jennifer Dwyer at Jennifer@progressivemaryland.org **no later than 5 P.M. on Friday, January 26, 2018**. Your responses will be available to the public at www.ProgressiveMaryland.org

Candidate Information

Candidate Last Name:

Wilkins

Candidate First Name:

Jheanelle

Office Seeking:

Maryland House of Delegates

District:

20

Party:

Democrat

Campaign Contact Information

Committee Name:

Friends of Jheanelle Wilkins

Street Address:

P.O. Box 7601

City:

Silver Spring

Zip Code:

20907

Business Phone:

240-428-4894

Fax:

none

Campaign Website:

www.jheanellewilkins.com

Candidate Contact Information

Cell Phone:

240-428-4894

Email Address:

Jheanelle@jheanellewilkins.com

Treasurer Contact Information

Treasurer Name:

Julio Ceron

Street Address:

P.O. Box 7601

City:

Silver Spring

Zip Code:

20907

Phone:

240-350-3264

Candidate History
Previous Elected Offices: Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee
Which Years Did You Serve: 2014-2017

Have you ever received an endorsement from Progressive Maryland?	YES _____ or NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> _____
If Yes, when:	
Have you ever assisted Progressive Maryland in achieving its goals?	YES <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> _____ or NO _____
Describe:	
<p>I've supported many of Progressive Maryland's priority issues in recent history by testifying before the Montgomery County Council and in Annapolis, attending rallies and events, sharing actions on social media etc. The issues include earned sick leave, raising the minimum wage (2013 and 2017), justice reinvestment, marijuana decriminalization, automatic voter registration, and police reform. In 2016, I drafted a blog post that was published on Progressive Maryland's blog in support of the Fight for 15.</p>	
Major Endorsements (Elected Officials/Organizations/Opinion Leaders):	
Maryland State Education Association	

Issue Questions

1. Do you support ending the money-based bail system?

XYes

No

Comments:

I voted to let the rule take effect in the 2017 session.

2. Will you support a \$15 per hour minimum wage for all Maryland workers? If yes, over what time period would you suggest implementing it? Do you support including an indexing provision?

XYes

No

Comments:

Yes, I was a cosponsor in 2017 and I am a cosponsor for the 2018 legislation. I support indexing, and I think the \$15 minimum wage should be implemented over a period of time that allows small businesses to gradually adjust. The year 2013 is a reasonable time frame.

3. Do you support public financing of State Senate and Delegate races similar to systems enacted in Montgomery County and Howard County?

XYes

No

Comments:

As a candidate working to raise significant funds for the first time, I fully support public financing in state races.

4. Do you support increased protections for workers in terms of scheduling practices? In particular, will you support requiring employers to give 3 weeks' notice to employees of their shift schedule, requiring employers who call employees into work only to send them home before the end of their shift to provide a certain percentage of the pay that the employee would have made that day, and prohibiting employers from scheduling an employee to work back-to-back shifts or shifts scheduled only a few hours apart without the employee's consent?

XYes No

Comments:

5. Do you support workers' rights to organize in the private and public sectors? Will you make it a priority that all public employees be covered by a public employees relations act, similar to the National Labor Relations Act, which has governed work in the private sector for over 80 years?

XYes No

Comments:

Strong unions help Maryland families and our economy. I support workers' rights to organize and I would absolutely make it a priority to make sure all public employees are covered. All workers should have the right to organize.

6. We believe that the financial security of women is integral to the health of our economy. Do you feel that legislation ensuring the equal treatment of men and women in the workplace is appropriate? If so, what legislation will you support as a member of the General Assembly to bring women to parity with their male colleagues?

XYes No

Comments:

I support efforts to make it easier to share salary, require furnishing of pay scales, bar requests for salary history, etc. I would support any reasonable measure.

7. Do you believe that employers should be required to make reasonable accommodations for employees and applicants for employment who have known limitations due to conditions related to pregnancy or childbirth?

XYes No

Comments:

Absolutely! This is should be a right.

8. Are there any instances in which the state should place restrictions on a patient seeking abortion care, such as stage of pregnancy, access based on age, or the type of abortion care that state funding should cover?

Yes No

Comments:

As long as a woman freely chooses and the procedure is safe for her, she should be able to make the decision that is right for her.

9. Will you support single-payer health care in Maryland? If so, how would you pass it and how would you pay for it?

XYes No

Comments:

Our premiums have been rising and many Marylanders are no long able to afford their care. It's critical that we take action and move forward with single payer.

10. Will you support instituting transparency rules for Pharmacy Benefit Managers and drug corporations as well as creating a drug cost review commission for high cost drugs?

XYes

No

Comments:

11. In general, do you support or oppose charter schools?

Support

Oppose

Comments:

12. Do you support or oppose school vouchers that would allow public school students, K-12, to attend a private school instead of their local public school? Please explain your support or opposition.

Support

Oppose

Comments:

We should focus funds in Maryland on improving all of our schools and ensuring every child has access to a high quality education. Vouchers do not fix systemic issues.

13. Will you support making state colleges and universities free for all in-state students?

Yes

No

Comments:

14. Will you support the Trust Act?

Yes

No

Comments:

As an immigrant with family who were once undocumented in the U.S., I fully support the Trust Act and stood up for it on the House floor.

15. Will you support closing corporate tax loopholes by requiring combined reporting, as most other states have done? Will you support bringing back Maryland's 6.25 % tax rate on income of more than \$1 million to allow upper income residents to contribute more to Maryland?

XYes No

Comments:

16. Do you plan to introduce or support legislation to provide protection for the Potomac, Chesapeake or other shared environments that have had federal funding for protection removed?

XYes No

Comments:

I've signed onto the various letters to protect our environment in addition to cosponsoring legislation. In terms of protecting our water, I have also traveled the state and worked with groups like Sierra Club and Chesapeake Climate Action Network to prevent a fracked pipeline from being built through our state in Western Maryland. The pipeline would be built under the Potomac river, our source of drinking water. I have been a strong advocate against this pipeline and mobilizing action to stop it.

17. What legislation and regulations can Maryland state government enact to protect our residents from the damage inflicted by Trump's federal government?

Comments:

The Maryland government can pass the Trust Act, privacy bills to prevent sharing religious information and voter information, robust caps on pollution, passage of the Clean Air Act to curb poultry farm pollution, tax reform to provide relief for residents, preventing additional charter school funding.

18. Do you support the creation of a progressive caucus in the state legislature?

XYes

No

Comments:

19. For the measures above that you have agreed to support would you be willing to:

- Co-sponsor legislation? YES or NO
- Work with our Policy and Legislative Director to help pass a bill? YES or NO
- Testify at a hearing in support of legislation? YES or NO
- Speak at public events in support of legislation? YES or NO
- Write a letter in support of legislation? YES or NO
- Write an op-ed in support of legislation? YES or NO

20. Would you be willing to engage with Progressive Maryland members and their communities by:

- Speaking at Progressive Maryland events? YES or NO
- Meeting with our membership annually to report on the progress of our shared priorities and answer questions from our members? YES or NO
- Writing a letter to unorganized workers endorsing an organizing drive by a labor union? YES or NO

I would be honored!