

**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

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| **Candidate Information** | | |
| Candidate Last Name:  \_Pena-Melnyk\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| Candidate First Name:  \_\_Joseline\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| Office Seeking:  \_\_\_\_\_Delegate – Maryland General Assembly\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| District:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_21\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
| Party:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Democratic\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| **Campaign Contact Information** | | |
| Committee Name:  \_\_\_\_Friends of Joseline Pena-Melnyk\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| Street Address:  \_\_\_\_\_PO Box 1251 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
| City:  \_\_\_\_\_College Park, MD\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| Zip Code:  \_\_\_\_\_\_20740\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| Business Phone:  \_\_\_\_\_301-213-3604\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| Fax:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| Campaign Website:  \_\_\_ http://joselinepenamelnyk.com\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| **Candidate Contact Information** | | |
| Cell Phone:  \_\_301-213-3604\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
| Email Address:  \_\_\_jpenamelnyk@gmail.com\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| **Treasurer Contact Information** | | |
| Treasurer Name:  \_\_Markian Melnyk\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
| Street Address:  \_\_9011 Gettysburg Lane\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
| City:  \_\_College Park, MD\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
| Zip Code:  \_\_20740\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| Phone:  \_\_301-256-4423\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| **Candidate History** | | |
| Previous Elected Offices:  City of College Park, **Councilmember**; January 2003 to December 2006  State of Maryland, **Delegate** – Maryland General Assembly; January 2007 to Present | | |
| Which Years Did You Serve:  See above. | | |
| Have you ever received an endorsement from Progressive Maryland? | YES\_\_X\_\_\_ or NO\_\_\_\_\_ | |
| If Yes, when:  I don’t recall. | | |
| Have you ever assisted Progressive Maryland in achieving its goals? | | YES\_\_x\_\_\_ or NO\_\_\_\_\_ |
| Describe:  I have assisted with gay marriage, the transgender bill, minimum wage, public campaign financing, death penalty repeal and many other progressive issues. | | |
| Major Endorsements (Elected Officials/Organizations/Opinion Leaders):  In past campaigns: Washington Post, Sierra Club, many labor unions, Progressive Change Campaign Committee, and an assortment of elected and community leaders. Pls see my website endorsements section. | | |

**Issue Questions**

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

Yes X No

Comments: I worked with the Maryland Legislative Black Caucus to oppose a bill that would have protected the bail bond industry. I don’t think poor people should be incarcerated just because they cannot afford to post bail.

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?

Yes X No

Comments: I am a co-sponsor of such a minimum wage bill.

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

Yes X No

Comments: I have been helping in the background in strategizing with Mary Lehman and Suchitra Balachandran to get this adopted in Prince George’s County.

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?

Yes X 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?

Yes X No

Comments: I have sponsored or co-sponsored many pieces of legislation that protects workers’ 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?

Yes X No

Comments: I voted for equal pay for women and I have co-sponsored many pieces of legislation that support women’s equality.

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?

Yes X No

Comments:

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 X

Comments:

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

Yes X No

Comments: I am a co-sponsor of single payer health care legislation. I serve on the Health and Government Operations Committee that will vote on such legislation and I’ve been on the record as a co-sponsor for many years. I am also co-chair of a commission that is exploring other ways to make health care more affordable and to stabilize the individual health insurance market.

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?

Yes X No

Comments: I am the primary sponsor of the cost review commission bill. I have been working with Healthcare for All to pass this bill this session.

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

Support X Oppose

Comments: My first priority is to ensure full funding for public schools. However, my constituents in Prince George’s County want more choices. Charter schools should be subject to the same rules and regulations.

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 X

Comments:

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

Yes X No

Comments: I am the co-sponsor of several bills that support this concept.

14. Will you support the Trust Act?

Yes x No

Comments: I was a co-sponsor of the Trust Act and am a sponsor this year.

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?

Yes X No

Comments: I have co-sponsored such legislation.

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?

Yes X No

Comments: I have supported funding to protect our watershed and legislation to protect against fertilizer runoff. I’ve been endorsed by the League of Conservation Voters for my strong environmental record.

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

Comments: I am working as co-chair of the Maryland Health Insurance Coverage Protection Commission. We are examining ways to protect Maryland families from skyrocketing health care costs due to the changes that Republicans have made to the ACA. We are exploring a way that Marylanders can buy into Medicaid, creating a basic health insurance plan, and whether to require individuals to have health insurance (if a person doesn't have health insurance and is subject to a penalty they could use the penalty money as a down payment for a health care policy). Lastly, I introduced a bill that would authorize Maryland to seek a Section 1332 waiver from the federal government. This would allow Maryland more flexibility to implement the Affordable Care Act.

I’ve also co-sponsored a bill that would allow Marylanders to take personal exemptions on their tax returns.

I also co-sponsored a bill creates a dedicated funding stream for Metro and another bill that provides for net neutrality and internet privacy. I am also a co-sponsor of a bill that would ensure that Maryland stays in the Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative. I also support Jimmy Tarlau’s bill that would prohibit a candidate that does not release his/her tax returns from being on the ballot in Maryland. Lastly, I’m supporting a bill that would prohibit the use of bump-stocks on weapons.

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

Yes X No

Comments:

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| 19. For the measures above that you have agreed to support would you be willing to: | |
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| * Co-sponsor legislation? * Work with our Policy and Legislative Director to help pass a bill? * Testify at a hearing in support of legislation? * Speak at public events in support of legislation? * Write a letter in support of legislation? * Write an op-ed in support of legislation? | YES\_\_X\_\_\_ or NO\_\_\_\_\_  YES\_\_X\_\_\_ or NO\_\_\_\_\_  YES\_\_X\_\_\_ or NO\_\_\_\_\_  YES\_\_X\_\_\_ or NO\_\_\_\_\_  YES\_X\_\_\_\_ or NO\_\_\_\_\_  YES\_\_X\_\_\_ or NO\_\_\_\_\_ |
| 20. Would you be willing to engage with Progressive Maryland members and their communities by: | |
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| * Speaking at Progressive Maryland events? * Meeting with our membership annually to report on the progress of our shared priorities and answer questions from our members? * Writing a letter to unorganized workers endorsing an organizing drive by a labor union? | YES\_X\_\_\_\_ or NO\_\_\_\_\_  YES\_\_X\_\_\_ or NO\_\_\_\_\_  YES\_X\_\_\_\_ or NO\_\_\_\_\_ |
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