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## 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](http://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](mailto: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](http://www.ProgressiveMaryland.org)

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### Candidate Information

Candidate Last Name:

FENNELL

Candidate First Name:

DIANA

Office Seeking:

DELEGATE – DISTRICT 47A

District:

47A

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Party:

DEMOCRATIC

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### Campaign Contact Information

Committee Name:

FRIENDS OF DIANA FENNELL

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Street Address:

P O BOX 514

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City:

BLADENSBURG

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Zip Code:

20710

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Business Phone:

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Fax:

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Campaign Website:

DIANAFENNELL.COM

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## Candidate Contact Information

Cell Phone:

301-512-1246

Email Address:

friendsofdianafennell@gmail.com

## Treasurer Contact Information

Treasurer Name:

Jane Lucas

Street Address:

P O BOX 514

City:

BLADENSBURG

Zip Code:

20710

Phone:

240-687-3209

### Candidate History

Previous Elected Offices:

Delegate – District 47A – Since 2014

Which Years Did You Serve:

2014 to Present

Have you ever received an endorsement from Progressive Maryland?

YES \_\_\_\_\_ or NO

If Yes, when:

Have you ever assisted Progressive Maryland in achieving its goals?

YES  or NO \_\_\_\_\_

Describe:

I've attended meetings and currently co-sponsor the \$15 minimum wage bill.

Major Endorsements (Elected Officials/Organizations/Opinion Leaders):

Maryland State Education Association (MESA), Maryland League of Conservation Voters

## Issue Questions

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

Yes  No

Comments:

**I voted last session to eliminate the need for cash for pretrial service assessments when defendants are not a flight risk, have not accused of a violent crime or not a danger to the community**

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  No

Comments:

**By 2023 or ASAP. I am currently co-sponsoring this bill and have taken the lead on this bill in Prince George's County.**

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

Yes  No

Comments:

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  No

Comments:

**Yes on all questions**

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  No

Comments:

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  No

Comments:

**I do not know of any legislation that has been presented this year, but I will support all legislation in this effort.**

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  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

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  No

Comments:

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  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:

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:

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  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?

Yes                          No

Comments:

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

**Comments: Presently, they are numerous to name. My main focus is on taxes and legislation is being introduced to make sure that the Republican estate tax giveaway increasing the exemption to \$11.2 does not also affect Maryland. We have to de-couple the Maryland Estate Tax from the Federal Estate Tax.**

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

Yes                          No

Comments:

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

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