

**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:  Shank\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| Candidate First Name:  Emily \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| Office Seeking:  Delegate in District 5 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| District:  5\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
| Party:  Democrat\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| **Campaign Contact Information** | | |
| Committee Name:  Emily Shank for Delegate \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| Street Address:  P.O. Box 1058 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
| City:  Eldersburg \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| Zip Code:  21784\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| Business Phone:  301-514-0083 \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| Fax:  n/a\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| Campaign Website:  www.emilyshankfordelegate.com\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| **Candidate Contact Information** | | |
| Cell Phone:  301-514-0083\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
| Email Address:  emilypshank@gmail.com\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| **Treasurer Contact Information** | | |
| Treasurer Name:  Richard V. Boswell \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
| Street Address:  188 E. Main Street \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
| City:  Westminster\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
| Zip Code:  21157\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| Phone:  443-340-7796\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| **Candidate History** | | |
| Previous Elected Offices:  None. | | |
| Which Years Did You Serve:  N/A | | |
| Have you ever received an endorsement from Progressive Maryland? | YES\_\_\_\_\_ or NO\_\_\_x\_\_ | |
| If Yes, when:  N/A | | |
| Have you ever assisted Progressive Maryland in achieving its goals? | | YES\_\_\_\_\_ or NO\_\_x\_\_\_ |
| Describe: | | |
| Major Endorsements (Elected Officials/Organizations/Opinion Leaders):  None (yet!) | | |

**Issue Questions**

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

**Yes**  No

Comments: I’ve worked with the public defender’s office in both San Diego, California, and Howard and Carroll Counties here in Maryland. I worked as a law clerk in the District Court for District 10 (Howard and Carroll Counties). A money- based bail system is essentially modern day debtors prison. Ultimately, the only question a judge should ask is ‘whether this defendant’ is a risk to society?’ If the answer is no, then there is no reason to not release them on their own recognizance. If the answer is yes, no amount of money should justify allowing them out before their trial. Defendants who have not been convicted yet are presumed innocent, yet those who cannot afford bail are stuck in jail. Concerns over defendants showing up to court proceedings could be handled with additional pretrial services.

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:

I support a living wage- that wage may be different in different places, and I believe the best approach would be to tailor the amount on the local level. This could be achieved with State oversight by passing a law that sets a minimum wage, then adjusting for cost of living in different areas. For example, if the State set the flat minimum wage (MW) at $15- Montgomery County should be significantly higher than Alleghany county. Perhaps Montgomery would be adjusted to a 1.2MW and Alleghany at a .8MW. Or some similar model. Regardless of the model adopted to make the minimum wage a living wage, an indexing provision only makes sense.

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:

I do support public financing at the state level. There are wrinkles that need to be worked out that present challenges. If public financing is provided by the County- some counties have multiple jurisdictions, and jurisdiction overlap multiple counties. Carroll County is such a county- primarily District 5, but also including District 9A and District 4. District 9A overlaps Howard County as well. And District 4 overlaps Frederick

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:

I support increased protections for workers. I believe advanced notice of schedules, requiring employers to pay a percentage of salary to employees who are called in and dismissed, and fair scheduling practices generally are certainly reasonable. I am the daughter of small business owner, and my husband spent years working for a small company. For small business, I would want to make sure that I worked in collaboration with them so that the legislation is not overly burdensome, while still protecting workers. I believe both can be achieved.

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:

I believe collective bargaining is essential.

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:

Equal work must receive Equal Pay. While Maryland has made good steps by not allowing employers to prevent employees disclosing their pay to each other, I think it should go further. I would support a Salary History bill such as the one Delegate Karen Young will put forth. Larger companies, acting on their own initiative, or to be in compliance with other states’ laws, have found that when employers are prevented from inquiring about past salary, women are paid more equally to men. (Since they aren’t bringing their previously unequal pay with them to their new job).

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: I’m a mom of 2 and worked through my second pregnancy. I was fortunate enough to take 4-6 months off after each child was born- but I know many women are not. Pregnancy is hard! And that’s when there are no complications. In reality, many women feel the need to stop working late in gestation because of the physical toll. The physical toll after having a baby can also be incredibly limiting. When families rely on a two incomes, and we still don’t have paid family leave, many women have to go back to work before they are physically ready. Even when a woman is ready to go back to work, accommodations are not always made to provide a clean place for her to pump. We know that we do better socially, economically, and otherwise when women are in the workforce. We know that allowing women to have more time bonding with their children is the most healthy option. We know that pediatricians recommend breast feeding for the first six months if possible. Why in the world don’t we facilitate this!

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:

Medical decisions should be left to the patient and doctor. Full stop. I wrote my Law Review Note on abortion rights in law school and would be happy to provide a copy.

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:

I support single payer in Maryland. It is really the only way to fix our healthcare system. And it is urgently needed given the opioid epidemic Maryland faces. I’ve reviewed Ben Jealous’ “Medicare for All” plan. Essentially, because Maryland has the unique law of requiring hospitals to charge the same amount for services regardless of provider, we are in a good position to expand that law. By expanding the law to require all doctors/ services/ medical centers to charge the same amount, it’s easy to have just 1 entity pay for it. (Can we also take a moment and acknowledge the absurdity that different insurance companies and people are charged different amounts for the *exact same thing?!?*)

Mr. Jealous’ plan admittedly raises as many questions as he tries to answer, although I believe that is unavoidable at the point in time. One area that gives me pause is his consideration to have employers pay for it. I am concerned that may leave people without coverage if they are not employed. I think however it is implemented, it must cover everyone, regardless of employment status.

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:

Yes, and see my comment above about the absurdity that different groups pay different prices.

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

Support **Oppose**

Comments:

I oppose schools receiving state funding without being accountable to the same standards of public schools. That said, there are individuals that have some revolutionary ideas about education. As with anything, some ideas are good, and some are terrible. I think public schools focus too much on testing (because of how funding works) and I would love to see public schools be able to incorporate or try new ideas. I think the best way to begin looking at school change is to involve our teachers, who have the best vantage point of what our kids need.

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:

Vouchers take money away from our public schools- many of which cannot spare it. The children left at the public school are now at a disadvantage compared to the private school. Meanwhile, the private school cost may not even be fully covered by the voucher.

Proponents of vouchers often point to a struggling public-school system. The solution is to FUND our schools and fix the schools and systems by SUPPORTING them. Not pulling more money from them to benefit a select few.

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

**Yes**  No

Comments:

The promise of a free education needs updating. A college degree has the value of One Million Dollars over a lifetime. Allowing those fortunate enough to afford college to continue to grow wealth, while those who cannot afford college are often financially stifled.

14. Will you support the Trust Act?

**Yes**  No

Comments:

Especially in our current times, when ICE is going to hospitals, waiting outside churches, and the Federal Legislators can’t even agree that DREAMERS should be protected, we should have a Trust Act in Maryland.

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:

I absolutely support combined reporting and the closing of tax loopholes. While I generally approve of requiring those who make more to contribute more, I would need to have a better understanding of the benefits and negatives to that specific requirement. Clearly, I believe we need to fund things like education and healthcare to an extent that we are not currently. And that requires money, which has to come from somewhere.

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:

The top two issues on my platform are education and healthcare. Both have been under attack from the first day of the presidency. As I discussed above, we can begin to better fund our schools while de-emphasizing test scores as a metric. Healthcare should be single payer and should include the right to control when and if you have a family.

Trump’s rhetoric around women is damaging as it seems into our societal conscience and further restricts women’s opportunities. A Salary History bill and better protection for pregnant and nursing mothers would be a good start.

Immigrant communities, Dreamers, and undocumented persons are at great risk under the Trump presidency. I would support sanctuary legislation.

The new Tax law will harm Maryland residents more than other jurisdictions. Hopefully legislation will be passed in a bi-partisan manner this session to address the harm Marylanders will face, without necessitating defunding of Maryland programs.

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

**Yes** No

Comments:

I support the creation of a progressive caucus to ensure we are keeping to a progressive agenda. I do not support any caucus taking a legislative body hostage during bipartisan work.

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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: | |
|  |  |
| * 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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