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## 2018 Questionnaire for State Senate

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, March 30, 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:

Augustine\_\_\_\_\_

Candidate First Name:

Malcolm\_\_\_\_\_

Office Seeking:

State Senate\_\_\_\_\_

District:

47 \_\_\_\_\_

Party:

Democratic \_\_\_\_\_

### **Campaign Contact Information**

Committee Name:

Friends of Malcolm Augustine \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address:

PO Box 272 \_\_\_\_\_

City:

Bladensburg \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code:

20710 \_\_\_\_\_

Business Phone:

301 501 2660 \_\_\_\_\_

Fax:

\_\_\_\_\_

Campaign Website:

www.malcolmaugustine.com \_\_\_\_\_

### **Candidate Contact Information**

Cell Phone:

301 501 2660 \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address:

Malcolm@MalcolmAugustine.com \_\_\_\_\_

**Treasurer Contact Information**

Treasurer Name:

Alphonse Valbrune \_\_\_\_\_

Street Address:

8100 River Falls Dr \_\_\_\_\_

City:

Potomac \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code:

20854 \_\_\_\_\_

Phone:

301 383 8011 \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Candidate History</b>
Previous Elected Offices:

Which Years Did You Serve:

Have you ever received an endorsement from Progressive Maryland?

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

If Yes, when:

Have you ever assisted Progressive Maryland in achieving its goals?

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

Describe:

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

## Issue Questions

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

Yes

Comments:

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

Comments:

I support the substance of Maryland Senate Bill 543 that moves the minimum wage to \$15 by 2023 and indexes to the CPI.

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

Yes

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:

In spirit I agree with fair scheduling practices. I would need to get additional information to take a position on the specific recommendations above.

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

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

Comments:

Maryland Equal Pay for Equal Work provisions should be used as the baseline and strengthened to assist in achieving its intended goal.

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

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?

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:

I am not prepared to adequately answer this question and would require additional information.

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

Comments:

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

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.

Oppose

Comments:

The mandate to provide a quality education to all of our children cannot be compromised.



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

Yes

No

Comments:

I will need additional information to ascertain how we can accomplish this goal as it relates to other important priorities like vocational training and opportunities.

14. Will you support the Trust Act?

Yes

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

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:

I will support legislation that provides protection for the Potomac and the greater Chesapeake Bay Watershed.

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

Comments:

As mentioned above, environmental protections, social program revenue protection and immigration policy to name a few.

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  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