

**2018 Questionnaire for the House of Delegate**

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, March 30, 2018.** Your responses will be available to the public at www.ProgressiveMaryland.org

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| **Candidate Information** | | |
| Candidate Last Name:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ Bagnall\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| Candidate First Name:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Heather\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| Office Seeking:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_House of Delegates\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| District:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_33\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
| Party:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_Democrat\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| **Campaign Contact Information** | | |
| Committee Name:  \_\_\_\_\_\_Citizens for Heather Bagnall\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
|  | |
| Street Address:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_1521 Ritchie Highway, Suite 129\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
| City:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Arnold\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| Zip Code:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_21012\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| Business Phone:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_800-207-9428\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| Fax:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_N/A\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| Campaign Website:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_www.HeatherBagnall.com\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| **Candidate Contact Information** | | |
| Cell Phone:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_443-254-6729\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
| Email Address:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_HeatherBagnallfor Delegate@gmail.com\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| **Treasurer Contact Information** | | |
| Treasurer Name:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Luke Tudball\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
| Street Address:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_967 Phillips Drive\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
| City:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_Arnold\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
| Zip Code:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_21012\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| Phone:  \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_917-533-3961\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ | |
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| **Candidate History** | | |
| Previous Elected Offices:  N/A | | |
| 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:  I worked for similar goals but in New York where I advocated for the $15 minimum wage and worked with the Unitarian Universalist Organization to educate myself and others on creating safe sanctuaries for Dreamers and immigrants in crisis. I also taught an afterschool arts program for at risk youth In MD, NY, and MO, entitled “Cultivating Kindness Through Theatre arts” which utilizes theatre games to teach empathy, communication and team building. | | |
| Major Endorsements (Elected Officials/Organizations/Opinion Leaders): | | |

**Issue Questions**

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

Yes X No

Comments:

Money-based bail places an undo and inequitable burden not only on low income incarcerated but also on the families of those who are being held until trial. Additionally, it puts those without means but not a flight risk or danger to society, those who conducted minor crimes, misdemeanor crimes, drug charges, and other non-violent offenders at risk of abuse within the system while awaiting trial, and sets up a self-perpetuating system of financing on the backs of low income incarcerated. Finally, it requires state resources to house those who cannot pay creating a needs based system which incentivizes incarceration for revenue. The current system incentivizes plea deals, even in the event that one isn’t guilty because of the fear of long-term incarceration awaiting trial.

There is no reason we cannot put into place systems to evaluate and mitigate risk which are not based on ability to pay as financial capability is not a marker of guilt, innocence, or intent, but lack of resources. New Jersey has had great success in reducing their incarcerated population, and reform and rehabilitation should be the goal of our prison system.

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:

Maryland absolutely must raise our minimum wage, over the next five years as our estimated cost of living minimum wage is $32 an hour which is why not only must it be indexed but must also be partnered with a child care initiative and healthcare reforms, and a partnership between development and government to build and or rehab affordable housing across the district and the state of Maryland. Those are the three biggest expenses for working parents-housing, child care, healthcare. We reduce the overall cost of living, we make a minimum wage of $15 a sustainable living wage for working families.

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:

As a self-employed artist and someone in a lower income bracket I often feel that my interests are under-represented and that though representatives may have compassion for the needs of low income but not poverty level voters, they may not have a clear understanding of the reality of choosing between a filling and tires, or lunch money and a school field trip. Too often, particularly down ballot, the fundraising for campaigns proves too daunting for candidates that do not have available resources to finance a competitive campaign which also means those who are well-funded by special interests are beholden to those interests. One of my great frustrations is the desire to change the rules before we get in the room. I am running so I can be that voice that gets in the room to change the rules, but in the meantime, it is a challenge to fund a competitive race when our incumbents are already well financed through special interests.

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:

I absolutely support protections for scheduling practices. The 3 week advanced notice is a major game changer for many working parents. Knowing when and what one will be making makes budgeting for monthly expenses manageable. Most low and middle income families are still living paycheck to paycheck and gaps in pay at the wrong moment can be catastrophic. Having a confirmed schedule will make it easier for families to budget and even to save. One of the biggest issues for low and even middle income families is the rising cost of childcare which often renders paychecks near neutral. Last minute schedules can make less expensive child care options near impossible because as we all know, anything which comes last minute comes at a premium.

Requiring a minimum percentage of pay for employees called in and then sent home due staffing errors will curtail this practice which frustrates employees and often short-shifts them as well, when the schedule reflects that they were called in, because schedules are often not adjusted for the reality that after being called in, they are sent home with little to no compensation for their time and efforts.

I am someone who has requested back to back shifts for the convenience as someone who traveled over an hour for work, but as such, I know how exhausting and inconvenient that scheduling can be, especially if there is a child care issue and not everyone has the stamina for such shifts. Employees know their limits better than employers and should have say in their own scheduling, particularly when it puts additional burdens beyond the standard rigors of the job.

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:

Collective bargaining rights are an essential part of business as they give employees a voice and have worked diligently to establish fair hiring, benefits, and financial packages.

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:

Unlike my predecessors, I support the Equal Pay for Equal Work Act however pay equity is not the only equalizer as access to affordable on-site child care, maternity and paternity leave and allowances for nursing facilities also help to make the workplace more accessible and equitable for women as well as flex schedules which accommodate the needs of being the primary care giver in a family. Additionally, drafting and enforcement of workplace harassment training and protocols are essential to an equitable workplace environment.

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:

It is 2018 and we know that women are not only an important, productive part of the workforce but are an equal and in many cases, sole provider for the household. Yet we still treat pregnancy as though it is a disease and not a natural part of the life cycle. Employees are legally protected from job termination or hiring discrimination due to pregnancy or childbirth but employers are still not legally required to make accommodations. I believe it is not only the right thing to do to require employers to make reasonable accommodations but that it will ultimately amount to a happier, healthier, more loyal and productive work force when they do not have to fear that the choice to have children will be prohibitive to career advancement or result in retaliatory policies.

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:

The wording of this question is challenging because we already have restrictions in place regarding abortions and viability. The decision to terminate a pregnancy should be between a woman and her physician. I think restrictions on late term abortions except in the case of danger to the mother, physical or mental, is the rare exception amounting to a reasonable restriction, however additional restrictions such as a waiting period, requirement for sonogram or counseling, or requirement for consent from the donor all place an unreasonable burden on the mother and should not be imposed. I do not think minors should have to obtain parental consent for an abortion; though it is advisable to have the support of an adult, consent of a parent does not always translate to support and can be more detrimental and prohibitive than helpful. I think a minor under the age of 16 seeking an abortion should have a counselor assigned to them to counsel following the abortion on any legal action they might want or need to take as regards rape, statutory rape or incest, as well as the emotional support after termination. Women should not be questioned on their decision to have an abortion, because women do not enter into abortion lightly, nor are they unaware of the consequential outcome of an abortion. Women need support networks, not restrictions. Additionally, access to education, family planning, birth control, and sexual health care has shown a decrease in the use of abortion for family planning.

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 still formulating my opinion on this as I truly believe that we need to attempt single-payer on the federal level rather than the state level, not only to increase the risk pool, but also because I am concerned that as more states impose single-payer at the state level, we leave our less affluent states with fewer and fewer options. That said, I do understand that single payer worked as a growing enterprise in Canada building province by province until it became a national program. I am concerned as we advocate for single-payer on the national level, we continue to lose ground for our health exchange at the local level and acknowledge we may not have the luxury of time to establish single-payer at the federal level so I am also researching how we establish single-payer at the local level. There are clearly opportunities for savings and revenue, such as advertising costs, and redundant reporting which are reduced or eliminated with single-payer. I do think single-payer is achievable with a combination of flat or payroll tax, and savings from paperwork, advertising, and redundant reporting, collective bargaining, and federal waivers. I still favor advocating for single-payer at the national level but would support it at the state level and would work to establish the revenue streams to sustain it. I think we need one more additional piece which is a coalition among multiple states and the ability to sell insurance across state lines. At this time, though I support single-payer, even as I am still researching how we pay for it.

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 have been following the work of Healthcare for All, Maryland Health Initiative and support the drug price commission, price gouging prevention legislation, and the exploration of out of state/country avenues for low cost prescription drugs.

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

Support Oppose X

Comments:

I do not oppose private schools, however I do oppose using public education funds to subsidize charter schools, particularly as our Governor is strongly in favor of deregulation, ending oversight and removing all protections for educators guaranteed by the teacher’s union as employees of the School Board and allowing for special interest groups to direct curriculum.

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:

Public education is intended to be the great equalizer and when we bolster public education, students do not need a private education to be competitive. However the more funding we pull for private education, the more limited the resources for public education and the more we legitimize the stigmatization of public education in the eyes of the public. Our public education system should be comparable and competitive to any private education but we cannot achieve that goal by diluting our funding resources and promoting private education as the more desirable

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

Yes X No

Comments:

I saw this successfully implemented in NY where they are using the program to incentivize graduates to stay and invest in the state. Students who receive free in state tuition, particularly with state schools who offer job placement internships remain in state contributing to the local economy and we also have the added benefit of not suffering brain drain from graduates who receive their education locally only to take their skills out of state.

14. Will you support the Trust Act?

Yes X No

Comments:

I am beyond frustrated by my current representation who have repeatedly spoken out against the TRUST Act, Community Trust Act, and the SAFE Act. I am a proponent of making communities safer by making those in the community feel safer. I was dismayed by the repeated misrepresentation of the Community Trust Act as requiring law enforcement not to act when a crime was committed and would immediately sponsor the SAFE Act should it not pass this legislative session, which it appears unfortunately unlikely to do. I understand immigration is a fraught subject particularly in my district, however protecting immigrants who have been working, paying taxes, and signed onto the rolls through driver’s licenses or through our in state tuition program is our job. We as a state created legislation which drew people out of the shadows, we cannot now turn our backs on them and release them to Federal Authorities without a solution, with a program which punishes non-citizens as criminals whose only crime was not being born here. Now more than ever we need a local solution to a national problem.

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:

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:

One of the reasons I decided to run for office was to ensure that the protections we have for our residents and our environment are protected. We have made tremendous progress on the revitalization of the Chesapeake Bay and estuaries however all that will be lost if we do not 1) create strong protections and aggressively work towards bay clean up, 2) create an effective and comprehensive recycling program with an education component to encourage school and business participation and 3) work with the governors from the surrounding states to ensure that all states work for the same compliance for water and air quality. Our improvements will mean little if our waterways are polluted up or down stream.

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

Comments:

We have a lot we need to do to ensure our residents aren’t irreparably damaged by the Trump administration. We need to enact a coalition between Governors of Maryland, Virginia, West Virginia, Pennsylvania, New Jersey, and New York, similar to the Chesapeake Bay coalition, to agree to maintain the standards created by the Paris Agreement. We need to ban fracking and offshore drilling, not just with a short term moratorium, but a full ban. We also need to enact hate crime legislation on the local level which will allow additional penalties to be enacted for crimes perpetrated for the purposes of terrorizing a particular community or minority group as established by a judge. We also need legislation to protect our transgender community from harm, such as protections for bathroom usage aligned to gender identity, and the use of preferred pronouns by school administration and workplaces, and restriction on requirements of proof of gender. We need a commitment to invest in renewable energy and to lift restrictions on the use of solar panels.

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: | |
|  | |
| * 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\_\_\_\_\_ |
|  | |