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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

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. Responses will be available to the public at www.ProgressiveMaryland.org

Candidate Information

Candidate Last Name:

Bravo

Candidate First Name:

Ysela

Office Seeking:

State Delagete

District:

4

Party:

Democratic

Campaign Contact Information

Committee Name:

Friends of Ysela Bravo-Swetdje

Street Address:

P.O. Box 1113

City:

Mount Airy

Zip Code:

21771

Business Phone:

240-563-3472

Fax:

N/A

Campaign Website:

bravo4md4.com

Candidate Contact Information

Cell Phone:

443-244-7839

Email Address:

Ysela@bravo4md4.com

Treasurer Contact Information

Treasurer Name:

Danielle Konstandinidis

Street Address:

12915 Penn Shop Road

City:

Mount Airy

Zip Code:

21771

Phone:

240-308-2534

Candidate History

Previous Elected Offices:

None

Which Years Did You Serve:NA

Have you ever received an endorsement from Progressive Maryland?	YES _____ or NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> _____
If Yes, when:	
Have you ever assisted Progressive Maryland in achieving its goals?	YES _____ or NO <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> _____
Describe:	
Major Endorsements (Elected Officials/Organizations/Opinion Leaders):	
Forwarded for consideration by FCTA to its members	

Issue Questions

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

Yes

Comments:

Justice is the cornerstone of our democracy and shouldn't be available to all without cost. We can start by following the steps that New Jersey took to reform their courts. They are looking at other resorts before looking to impose bail costs.

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 would want to see a plan that would help businesses adjust, especially small businesses, and encouraged hiring over three years. While I support indexing provisions there needs to be more research done over what standards to index wage to so we don't middle-out again after 10-15 years.

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

Yes

Comments:

I would welcome it.

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

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

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:

I will want to do more research before I answer this. I have meetings with several prominent women in the area and am seeking input.

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:

Medical choices are between doctor and patient.

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

Comments:

I believe we have a chance to pass single-payer health care in Maryland. We have a serious opioid issue and medical care is urgently needed. My district currently received a D in health care access, because we don't have enough doctors and many aren't taking insurance. Our district residents need education on how single payer will help them and I would hold town halls and information meetings with experts to help lead discussions. As for paying for it, I know Ben Jealous has a plan. I am still doing my homework though and do not have a plan to pay for it - yet.

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?

Support

Comments:

I moved here from California. In Santa Monica, there were charter schools that specialized in arts, engineering languages - and they were phenomenal. Children have different ways of learning and if we can tap into engaging them in a lifelong love of education, I am all for it. But charter schools should never take away from our general public schools.

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:

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

Yes No

Comments:

I would support this if we could had a financially soluble plan.

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

Comments:

We need to protect our environment - it is an investment in our future.

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 would like to see our shorelines protected from Trump's relaxation of oil and gas drilling regulations.

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

Yes

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
- 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