



2026 Candidate Questionnaire

Candidate Name: Bill Geibler

Position: State Senate

District: 7

What are your unique strengths for this position? What committee(s) would you like to serve on and why?

Position Statement: Strengths Necessary for Maryland State Senator

As a candidate for Maryland State Senate, I am committed to leveraging my personal strengths to effectively serve the citizens of Maryland and the constituents of District 7. Below are the key strengths that make me an ideal fit for this important role:

- **Effective Communication**

I am an articulate and persuasive communicator, capable of engaging in public debate with clarity and conviction. In my long career in marketing and communications, I have developed an ability to convey complex ideas simply and effectively to ensure that my positions are understood by both colleagues and constituents alike. This skill is vital for advocating policies that reflect the values and priorities of our district.

- **Relationship Building**

I possess a strong ability to maintain and cultivate positive relationships with colleagues across the political spectrum. I believe that collaboration and bipartisanship are essential in crafting solutions that address the diverse needs of our state.

- **Integrity and Accountability**

I uphold the highest ethical standards, prioritizing transparency and dependability in all actions. By fostering trust with voters, I am dedicated to maintaining accountability and ensuring that their interests are front and center in my legislative agenda.

Committee interests:

- Senate Committee on Health, Education, Labor, and Pensions
- Children, Youth, and Families Committee
- Ending Homelessness Committee

What legislation would you introduce/sponsor to address economic inequality in Maryland?

As a candidate for the state senate, I am proud to share my vision and legislative priorities that will drive meaningful change and improve the quality of life for all residents. My campaign focuses on three critical areas: Education and Workforce Development, Direct Economic Support, and Affordable Housing. Together, we can build a stronger, more equitable future.



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Education and Workforce

Education is the cornerstone of our society and the foundation upon which we build prosperous communities. To ensure our children and future workforce are equipped for success, I will advocate for:

- **Increased Funding for K-12 Schools:** Our schools need the resources to provide high-quality education. I will champion legislation that allocates more funds to K-12 education, ensuring every child has access to the tools and opportunities necessary for academic and personal growth.
- **Expansion of Apprenticeships:** By expanding apprenticeship programs, we can bridge the gap between education and employment. These programs provide valuable hands-on experience, helping students transition smoothly into the workforce while meeting the needs of local industries.
- **Improvement of Teacher Pay:** Teachers are the backbone of our education system. It is crucial to recognize their vital role by aligning teacher salaries with the state's education reform initiatives. By advocating for competitive pay, we can attract and retain talented educators, ultimately benefiting our students.

Direct Economic Support

Addressing poverty and providing direct economic support is essential for fostering an inclusive and thriving community. My legislative agenda would sponsor or support:

- **Place-based investments in high-poverty areas, like the Enough Act.** By directing resources to these communities, we can stimulate economic growth, create jobs, and provide residents with the support they need to improve their quality of life.

Affordable Housing

Every resident deserves a safe and affordable place to call home. To address the challenges of housing instability, I would sponsor or support:

- **Increased Funding for Eviction Assistance:** By boosting funding for eviction assistance programs, we can help families stay in their homes during financial hardships, reducing the risk of homelessness and associated social costs.
- **Implementation of Renter Protections:** I will advocate for stronger renter protections, including



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measures that prevent unjust evictions and ensure fair treatment of tenants. These protections are crucial for maintaining stability and security for renters across the state.

What would you do to address the impacts of climate change in Maryland and how would you encourage growth without degrading our environment and natural resources?

As a candidate for the Maryland Senate, I am steadfast in my support for the Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022. This visionary legislation sets forth an ambitious and necessary goal: to achieve net-zero greenhouse gas emissions statewide by 2045. Addressing climate change is not only an environmental imperative but also an economic and social responsibility that we must embrace for the well-being of our communities and future generations.

Cap-and-Invest Strategy

A key component of our path to net-zero emissions is the implementation of a cap-and-invest strategy. This approach is designed to effectively reduce the greenhouse gas emissions that are the primary contributors to climate change. By setting a cap on emissions and creating a market for emissions allowances, we can ensure that reduction targets are met in a cost-effective manner.

How It Works

- Emissions Allowances: Firms will be required to submit one emissions allowance for each ton of pollution they emit. This creates a tangible incentive for companies to innovate and reduce their carbon footprint.
- Auction System: Maryland will distribute emissions allowances through an auction system. This transparent and equitable process not only encourages compliance but also generates revenue that can be reinvested into climate solutions.

Directing Proceeds to Climate Investments

The proceeds from the auction of emissions allowances will be strategically directed towards climate-related investments and initiatives aimed at enhancing energy affordability. This includes:

- Renewable Energy Projects: Investing in solar, wind, and other renewable energy sources to transition away from fossil fuels and create sustainable energy solutions.
- Energy Efficiency Programs: Supporting upgrades and retrofits in buildings to reduce energy consumption and lower costs for residents and businesses.
- Green Infrastructure: Building resilient infrastructure that can withstand the impacts of climate change while promoting economic growth and job creation.

A Just Transition

It is crucial that our climate policies also support a just transition. This means ensuring that the shift to a sustainable economy is inclusive and equitable, providing opportunities and support for workers and



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communities disproportionately affected by environmental and economic changes.

I am committed to advancing Maryland's leadership in climate action through the Climate Solutions Now Act of 2022 and beyond. By working together, we can foster a healthier environment, a stronger economy, and a more equitable society for all Marylanders.

What legislation would you introduce and/or sponsor to ensure Marylanders' rights and wellbeing in the face of current federal policies? Please address protections for women, the LGBTQ+ community, and all populations under threat.

As a candidate for the State Senate of Maryland, I am committed to ensuring the safety, dignity, and rights of all individuals, particularly those belonging to vulnerable groups such as women, minorities, the LGBTQ+ community, and others. It is imperative that we actively counter federal attempts to dismantle Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion (DEI) programs, which are essential for fostering a society that values equality and justice for all. Below are the key actions I will support to achieve these goals:

Federal Litigation and Injunctions

In response to federal mandates that threaten the integrity of DEI programs, Maryland must take a strong stand. I support using federal litigation and injunctions to block the enforcement of orders that require federal contractors and grantees to certify they are not operating "illegal" DEI programs. Additionally, we must prevent the U.S. Department of Education from cutting funds to schools that continue to uphold DEI initiatives. These legal challenges are vital to protect the educational and economic opportunities of all Maryland residents.

Declaring a "Safe Haven" for DEI

I am a proponent of legislation that establishes Maryland as a "safe haven" for DEI principles. This measure will encourage state and local policymakers to maintain and expand DEI programs, directly opposing federal attacks on these initiatives. By doing so, we affirm that such federal actions are detrimental to Maryland's economic and social health. It is our responsibility to ensure that Maryland remains a place where diversity is celebrated and inclusion is prioritized.

Reinforcing State Anti-Discrimination Laws

Maryland has a robust framework of anti-discrimination laws that exist independently of federal mandates. As part of my candidacy, I will advocate for reinforcing these laws to provide additional layers



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of protection. This reinforcement is crucial to safeguarding the rights of all individuals, ensuring that everyone in Maryland can live free from discrimination and prejudice.

Legislative Resistance

Maryland Democrats have proposed groundbreaking legislation that empowers residents to sue the federal government in state court for potential violations of constitutional rights stemming from federal orders. I fully support this initiative as it provides a powerful tool for Marylanders to protect their rights and hold the federal government accountable for actions that undermine DEI principles and constitutional protections.

How do you plan to address the funding shortfall that will soon reach Maryland due to Federal budget cuts to education, infrastructure, disaster response (FEMA) and others?

As a candidate committed to fiscal responsibility and social justice, I recognize the pressing challenge posed by looming budget deficits. It is essential to address these deficits in a manner that does not compromise our core priorities, particularly education, which is the cornerstone of our future prosperity. My policy emphasizes a balanced approach that ensures fiscal health without undermining crucial public services.

Key Strategies:

Closing Corporate Tax Loopholes

Corporate tax loopholes have long allowed large corporations to evade paying their fair share, leaving a significant gap in revenue. By closing these loopholes, we can ensure that corporations contribute appropriately to the economic infrastructure from which they benefit. This measure not only increases revenue but also promotes fairness and equity in our tax system. To foster a fair tax system, Maryland must tackle corporate tax avoidance. By adopting worldwide combined reporting, we can limit the use of foreign shell companies by corporations to avoid state taxes. This approach will ensure that corporations pay their fair share and contribute to the economic well-being of our state, leveling the playing field for local businesses and reducing the tax burden on individuals.

Closing the LLC Loophole

A growing number of large businesses take advantage of the current tax structure by operating as LLCs, partnerships, or S-corporations, thereby becoming exempt from federal and state corporate income taxes. This loophole undermines the state's revenue and fairness. My belief is that the way to end this special treatment is by taxing the largest businesses using these structures. To protect smaller



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enterprises, I support exempting each company's first \$1 million in profits, ensuring that only about 2% of such companies are subject to this tax. This reform will generate essential revenue while maintaining a supportive environment for small businesses.

Increasing Taxes on the Top 1%

Maryland has one of the highest median incomes in the nation; however, the rates of poverty and child poverty in Maryland remain unacceptably high. The wealthiest 1% of our population have seen their incomes soar, while middle and lower-income families have struggled. By increasing taxes on the top 1%, we can redistribute resources to fund essential public services. This approach is critical to achieving a more equitable society where everyone has access to quality education and other vital services.

Implementing a 1% Capital Gains Surcharge

A 1% surcharge on capital gains is a modest yet effective measure to raise additional revenue. Capital gains, often enjoyed by the wealthiest individuals, should contribute more significantly to the public good. This surcharge will help us bridge the budget gap without placing undue burden on working families.

Cracking Down on Tax Fraud

Tax fraud undermines public trust and deprives the state of crucial resources. To combat this issue, I propose increasing the number of auditors tasked with investigating complex returns from corporations and wealthy individuals. By enhancing our auditing capabilities, we can more effectively identify and address instances of tax fraud, ensuring that all entities and individuals contribute their fair share to the state's budget.

Expanding Working Family Tax Credits

Supporting working families is crucial for Maryland's economic growth and social stability. I advocate for the expansion of working family tax credits, which will provide much-needed relief to low and middle-income families. By increasing these credits, we can reduce poverty, encourage workforce participation, and stimulate local economies. This initiative is not just a financial investment, but a moral commitment to the well-being of Maryland's families.

Commitment to Education

By adopting these strategies, we can prevent the defunding of core areas such as education. Education is not merely an expense but an investment in our future. Preserving and enhancing funding for education ensures that every child has the opportunity to succeed, thereby fostering innovation and economic growth.



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Through these measures, we commit to a future where economic prosperity is shared, and every citizen has access to the opportunities they deserve.