



## 2026 Candidate Questionnaire

**Candidate Name:** Cathi Forbes

**Position:** Delegate

**District:** 43B

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

I come from community advocacy. I've been a member of the House of Delegates for 7 legislative sessions. I have served on Appropriations for all 7 legislative sessions. In my work on Appropriations I sit on the Education and Economic Development, and Capital Budget subcommittees, and I am Chair of the Joint Committee on Pensions. I would like to continue to serve on Appropriations.

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

I have always supported the Fair Share legislation, and will continue to champion the provisions of Fair Share. In particular I don't know why Maryland has not adopted combined reporting.

**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?**

I am proud of my 100% lifetime rating of the League of Conservation Voters. Although I don't sit on the Environment and Transportation Committee, I follow its work closely and advocate for clean energy policy, and policies that address climate change. Reinvesting and revitalizing older neighborhoods is a way to encourage growth without degrading our environment. Keeping people close to the places that have been historically populated means less time and energy spent on travel. Additionally, I support investments in public transportation which will allow people to get to jobs, shopping, and activities without owning a vehicle.



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**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.**

I am an ally member of the LGBTQ Caucus and will be an officer of the Women's Legislative Caucus next year. The federal cuts to our workforce have been the worst in the nation. We in the General Assembly are constantly reviewing ways to help our vulnerable communities. I was a proud co-sponsor of the HB444 to end local law enforcement cooperation with federal immigration enforcement, and HB1341, the Maryland Values Act of 2026, which expanded sensitive locations. I will continue to advocate for legislation and funding to ensure we protect the wellbeing of all Marylanders.

**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?**

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