

Equality Maryland PAC 2006 CANDIDATE QUESTIONNAIRE

Thank you for taking time to complete this questionnaire.

Equality Maryland Political Action Committee (PAC) was created for the purpose of electing candidates to statewide office who support fairness and justice for all citizens, regardless of sexual orientation or gender identity and expression. Results of this questionnaire will be used in our candidate endorsement process and analyzed for the production of our statewide voters' guide, which will be disseminated to membership and published on our web site.

To be considered for support, please return your form by **June 19th**:

- Mail to Equality Maryland, Attn: Candidate Questionnaires, 8121 Georgia Avenue, Suite 501, Silver Spring, MD 20910.
- Fax to: (301) 587-6909
- Email to: PAC@EqualityMaryland.org

Please answer all questions and check only one box for each question.

Candidates and/or campaign managers should feel free to call the Equality Maryland office at 301/587-7500 with questions.

Candidate Name: _____

Office Sought: _____

District Number: _____

County: _____

Political Party: _____

Candidate Cell Phone: _____

CONTACT INFORMATION

Committee Name: _____

Campaign Address: _____

E-mail Address _____

Campaign Phone: _____ Fax: _____

Campaign Manager: _____

Campaign Treasurer: _____

CANDIDATE INFORMATION

Candidate Status: ? Incumbent ? Challenger ? Open Seat
 ? New Seat ? Incumbent Shifted to New District

Request: ? Endorsement ? Contribution ? Both

Requested for: ? Primary Election ? General Election ? Both

Funds Raised to Date: \$ _____

Opponent(s)/Political Party:

ISSUE INFORMATION

1. Several proposals to amend the Maryland Constitution to ban marriage for same-sex couples have been introduced over the past few legislative sessions. Some ban marriage, civil unions, and legal relationships between same-sex couples. Some ban just marriage. Others ban marriage while implementing civil unions. Would you oppose any amendment whatsoever to the Maryland Constitution that bans marriage for same-sex couples?

 ? Yes ? No

2. Currently, the state of Maryland only issues a marriage licenses to two individuals of the opposite sex. Would you support a bill in the General Assembly to make the issuance of marriage licenses in Maryland gender-neutral?

 ? Yes ? No

3. President Bush has endorsed an amendment to the U.S. Constitution that would ban marriage for same-sex couples. If this amendment passed Congress, would you oppose ratification of such an amendment?

 ? Yes ? No

4. Baltimore City, California, the District of Columbia, Hawaii, Illinois, Maine, Minnesota, New Mexico, Rhode Island and Washington are among the numerous jurisdictions in our country that protect transgender citizens from discrimination. Do you support adding “gender identity or expression” to our state’s anti-discrimination law?

 ? Yes ? No

5. Maryland state employees are able to cover their spouses under their benefits plan. Would you support joining California, Connecticut, the District of Columbia, Illinois, Iowa, Maine, Montana, New Jersey, New Mexico, New York, Oregon, Rhode Island, Vermont and Washington in passing legislation to

allow domestic partners of state employees to be eligible for the same healthcare and other employee benefits as spouses of employees?

? Yes ? No

6. In 2007, California's Equal Benefits in State Contracts law will go into effect. This legislation mandates that state contractors cannot offer spousal benefits to employees without also offering domestic partner benefits to employees. Do you support enacting a similar law in Maryland?

? Yes ? No

7. The American Psychiatric Association, American Medical Association, American Counseling Association, and American Psychological Association have all denounced so-called "conversion therapy" programs that seek to change an individual's sexual orientation as unhealthy and potentially dangerous for those who enroll. Do you oppose including "conversion therapy" in public school health curriculums as an appropriate response to issues of sexual orientation?

? Yes ? No

8. Do you support efforts in our public schools to provide HIV/STD prevention education?

? Yes ? No

9. Do you oppose teaching abstinence-only-until-marriage education programs to the exclusion of comprehensive sex education?

? Yes ? No

10. HIV/AIDS continues to affect Marylanders and takes a disproportionately heavy toll on African American gay men and transgender individuals. With Federal support for HIV/AIDS prevention on the decline, do you support providing state funds for the specific targeting of resources to African American gay men, transgender individuals and other minority communities to help stop the spread of HIV?

? Yes ? No

11. Federal funds to support prevention and treatment of AIDS are decreasing. Would you support an increase in state funding to at least maintain current funding levels?

? Yes ? No

12. Would you speak out in support of and persuade other lawmakers to support measures that advance the cause of equality for lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people and their families?

? Yes ? No

13. Do you feel you could benefit from additional education on LGBT issues to help you talk about the issue more eloquently to constituents and/or the media? *(This question will not be scored for endorsement purposes.)*

? Yes ? No

14. Please use this space to discuss other issues you would like Equality Maryland to consider about your candidacy. For instance, ways you have supported legislation or issues promoted by Equality Maryland in the past or ways you would like to help Equality Maryland in the future, such as any legislation you would sponsor.

? I have reviewed the above information and attest to its accuracy.

Printed Candidate Name

Signature of Candidate

Date

By Authority: Victor J. Basile, Treasurer