

QUESTIONNAIRE RESPONSE FROM RICHARD MADALENO

1. Healthcare

1A. As an individual or an elected official, did you take any actions last year to advance the national issue of universal, single-payer healthcare solution, and if so, what were those actions (to include taking a public stance and making contributions, *etc.*)?

I consistently supported the inclusion a public option in the federal bill. As a state senator, I have worked with and supported the Maryland Health Care for All Coalition.

2 Environment

2A. Do you support increased funding for mass transit, as well as the Purple Line, and do you oppose the Inter County Connector (ICC) in particular?

I have supported increased funding for mass transit as well as the construction of the ICC. As the Montgomery County Senate Delegation chair, I helped build a working group with my Prince George's colleagues to ensure continued state support for the reauthorization of the Metro Matters program. I do not support the construction of the Purple Line. During the past two years, I am the only member of the General Assembly who has introduced transportation tax increase measures to try to make sure that our transportation trust fund has adequate resources to maintain and improve of transportation network.

2B. Do you support limiting the Maryland pollutant runoffs reaching the Bay?

Yes.

2C. Do you support legislation that places stricter State-limits on gasoline consumption to force auto makers to create more efficient vehicles?

Yes.

3. Taxation

3A. Do you support a full, graduated income taxation solution for Maryland residents, including the "Millionaires' Tax; and eliminating tax breaks for wealthy individuals?

I supported the legislation that passed during the 2007 special session to establish our new and more progressive income tax structure. In fact, I was the floor leader for most of the debate on the measure. I do not support the additional Millionaires bracket as it places are state out of line with almost every other state.

3B. Do you support combined reporting for corporations, and imposing higher corporate tax rates in line with neighboring states?

I support the adoption of combined reporting. Over my time in the Senate, I have consistently supported combined reporting and currently serve on the Business Tax Reform Commission where I have consistently advocated for combined reporting. I remain perplexed by the misinformation about my position on this bill and those of my delegate colleagues who have all either voted for combined reporting or cosponsored bills to implement it. My only concern with its adoption deals with an accurate and prudent revenue estimate. I do not think it would be responsible of the governor or General Assembly to

include a specific revenue increase in the budget as a result of adopting combined reporting. I think it is the appropriate tax policy and should be debated as such. I simply question whether or not it is a certain revenue generator for the state, especially in these volatile economic times. The rate question is more complex since Virginia remains substantially below us in the rate and is considering eliminating their tax altogether.

3D Do you support an increase in the alcohol tax?

Yes. I am the lead cosponsor of the alcohol tax measure in the Senate.

4. Courts & Imprisonment

4A. Do you support the repeal of the death penalty in Maryland?

Yes.

4B. Do you support policies/legislation to strengthen gang prevention in Maryland without punishing young victims of gang violence and intimidation, and further eroding communities where gangs dominate?

Yes.

5. Immigrant Rights

5A. Do you support granting of Maryland drivers' licenses without any restrictions dependent on immigration status?

I worked hard to try to adopt a sensible solution in this debate that would provide all Maryland residents with access to a drivers license and car insurance. Drivers license laws are about ensuring good drivers and safe roads, not enforcing immigration laws.

5B. Do you have a history of support for legislation to make Maryland a "sanctuary state" and/or are you willing to support it in the future? (In a sanctuary state, no agent, officer or employee of the state, may assist the U.S. Bureau of Immigration and Customs Enforcement in the investigation or arrest of any persons for violation of the U.S. immigration and nationality laws.)

I have worked hard to oppose efforts to stigmatize and target immigrants.

6. Women's Rights

6A. Do you support enacting state laws that require equal pay for equal work irrespective of gender?

Yes.

6B. Do you support women's access to government-funded abortion under MHIP, or have you opposed restrictions on those rights?

Yes. I lead the effort on the Senate floor this year to oppose a Republican effort to prohibit any public funding of abortions.

7. LGBT Rights

7A. Do you have a history of advocating for legalizing same-sex marriages in Maryland, and for opposing restrictions on recognizing same-sex marriages performed in other jurisdictions?

Yes. I was the first openly gay person elected to the General Assembly and remain the only one in the Senate. I am a lead sponsor of the marriage equality bill and requested the Attorney General's opinion on the recognition of out-of-state marriages.

7B. Do you support Montgomery County's Gender Identity Law, and have you taken any actions to defend it when it was under attack, and if so, what actions; in addition, do you support a similar State-wide law?

I supported the county law and lobbied council members for its adoption. I volunteered in the effort to review the petition signatures. I am the lead Senate sponsor of the statewide legislation.

8. Labor Rights

8A. Do you support the rights of Maryland's private and public-sector workers to have collective bargaining and union representation?

Yes

9. Human Rights

9A. Outside of the context of health insurance reform and the other "rights" cited above, as an individual or an elected official, did you take any actions over the last six years to advance the needs of what is sometimes called "the underprivileged" (e.g., economically disadvantaged, mentally ill, developmentally disabled, etc.); and if so what were those actions?

I am most proud of my work in two areas. I have been regularly honored by the advocacy community for people with developmental disabilities and mental illness for my work to protect and expand services for these individuals. I championed the successful effort to expand Maryland's Refundable Earned Income Tax Credit program as part of the 2007 tax package.

10. Education

10A. Do you support full funding of the Thornton Commission on Education Finance, Equity, and Excellence, and for opposing public funds being used for private schools (including the use of vouchers or the BOAST Bill)?

Yes. I helped draft the Thornton legislation and have consistently opposed the BOAST bill.

10B. Do you oppose the current level of reliance on standardized test scores as the measure of student success and evaluating schools, or would you make changes, and if so, what changes would you make?

For now, we are limited as a state as to the actions we can take to reduce some of the tests due to federal law. I have argued that we need to use the test data to track the progress of a cohort of students as they advance through the system instead of tracking results between cohorts at the same grade level. This year's third graders should be changed against the tests as second graders, not against the test results of last year's third graders.

10C. Do you support the right for undocumented residents and their children to have equal access to the public school systems at all levels as apply to other State residents; for applying the same in-state college tuition, and for using the same formula for scholarships as applied to other State residents?

Yes, and my voting record reflects this position.

11. Elections

11A. Do you support enacting State campaign finance reform and laws that curtail corporate influence on elections, and laws that enable voluntary public financing of campaigns for state offices in a way that would allow candidates to receive funding after demonstrating significant community support?

Yes.

11B. Do you support the right enfranchisement for all residents of Maryland, regardless of legal status.

No.

12. Peace and Anti-War

12A. Do you have a history of opposing the use of the Maryland National Guard in non-humanitarian military assignments in other countries?

Yes. I the author and lead sponsor of a bill to give our governor additional authority to oppose a foreign combat assignment for our national guard should there be no valid Congressional authorization of military force. I also authored a resolution calling for the guard to be sent to Iraq only if they were probably trained and equiped and there was a date certain for their return.

13. Good Government

13A. Do you support enacting open government and transparency legislation that would include the public web-posting of the entire record and votes of all meetings/hearings of General Assembly official bodies at every level, including subcommittees; and the posting and sign-up sheets for all General Assembly hearings?

Yes. I continue to work with TEAG to make improvements to the General Assembly's website and to make more information available to the public.