

QUESTIONNAIRE FOR MARYLAND STATE-OFFICE CANDIDATES

Roger Manno

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.*)?

Yes. I serve on the Leadership Conference on Guaranteed Health Care (the single-payer steering committee), and worked closely with Congressman John Conyers to advance universal, single-payer for nearly a decade. My life's work has been to ensure that no family has to go without health insurance as my family did when I lost his father nearly 40 years ago. I have worked for comprehensive health reform on both the state and federal levels as an attorney in Congress to advance monumental health reforms, as a lawmaker in Annapolis taking on the health insurance companies and winning, and as a member of President's Obama's White House health reform working group, I helped to cover tens of millions of Americans, and have specifically advocated for eliminating preexisting condition preclusions, and closing the Medicare Part D "Donut Hole." While we still have a long way to go, I believe that we will get there.

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? **Yes.**

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 automakers 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? **Yes.**

3B. Do you support combined reporting for corporations, and imposing higher corporate tax rates in line with neighboring states? **Yes. I authored a combined reporting bill in 2010.**

3D Do you support an increase in the alcohol tax? **Yes. I am a cosponsor.**

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? **Yes.**

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.) **Yes. I do not believe that immigration is a state issue.**

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.**

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.**

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 do support equal rights under the law, both on the state and county levels. I have consistently co-sponsored and actively supported the Gender Identity Anti-Discrimination Act (House Bill 1022, Senate Bill 583), although I don't believe I was involved in it on the county level.**

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?

While there have been so many, In 2007, I used my legislative scholarship dollars to create the Delegate Manno Scholarship for Students with Special Needs and other Pervasive Developmental Disorders. We have granted \$120,000 in such scholarships to date.

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.**

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? **Yes.**

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.**

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. **Yes.**

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.**

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 helped MD TEAG draft the bill.**

"Leadership Takes Teamwork"
Join us @ www.RogerManno.com

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----- Original Message -----

Subject: Progressive Neighbors' Endorsement Questionnaire
From: "L. Zapata" <4zapata@gmail.com>
Date: Wed, July 07, 2010 6:48 am
To: "L. Zapata" <4Zapata@gmail.com>

Dear Maryland State Candidate,

Progressive Neighbors (PN) is a Montgomery County-based grassroots organization that actively works to promote a wide variety of progressive causes. Each election cycle PN creates a Progressive Voter Guide listing the candidates we endorse, and works to get those candidates elected -- especially by handing out the Voters Guide at the Polls in the Primary and on Election Day.

Our endorsement process involves sending out questionnaires to all of candidates who will appear on the September Primary Ballot and then rating each candidate's "progressiveness" based on his/her answers. Please submit your answer to each question below that question in the text of the Email, and return it to the sender. We also ask that you follow the two simple rules below.

Thank you for participating in this endorsement process. In keeping with our policy of openness, we will be posting our process, the questions, candidate answers, and our decisions on our website.

1. We ask you to return this filled-out questionnaire by close of the business day two (2) weeks after it was emailed to you (i.e., July 21).
2. Although most of the questions below can be answered with a simple "yes" or a "no," please feel free to expand on your answers wherever you feel it might be helpful to us when making our endorsement decision.
3. For all of the questions we will rely on more than your current answer/position, and will want to consider your track record of having supported/opposed an issue. We understand and readily accept that positions on issues change, but if that has happened, we hope you will expand on your answer and make it clear if that is the case. If you have not held an elective office that would allow us to compare your current position with a discernible record, we hope you will tell us about any public actions or stances you have taken where that record can be verified. If you do not provide information at this time, we might ask you to cite examples in the future.

Thanks again,
PN Steering Committee
<http://www.progressiveneighborsmd.org/>

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