

Announcement
Meyer F. Marks
Maryland Senate District 16
“A Platform For Maryland's Future”

As many of you are, I am concerned about the current direction of this state. Every year we are faced with another budget deficit, because of wasteful spending. Year after year there has continued to be a discrepancy between state revenue and spending that has failed to address our long term budget problems. It is vital for our economic growth, that we cut wasteful spending, by streamlining state government in order to balance the budget..

Over the past few months many of you have provided me much encouragement and support to seek the office of state Senate, for which I am very humbled. It is because of my deep affection and concern for our state, that I am pleased to announce my candidacy for Maryland Senate District 16. I am not seeking this office because of my own ambition, it is because of the support and encouragement that you have provided me. With over twenty years of public policy experience at the state and federal level makes me uniquely qualified for this office. I am confident with my background and experience, that I will provide a positive contribution to this state.

After listening to your concerns, it is clear we need a new direction in this state. My opponent has become arrogant and out of touch with the needs and concerns of Maryland citizens, by failing to let your voice be heard on the issues that are most important in your communities. I have outlined four areas of concern that I will make a priority when elected.

- **Fiscal Accountability;** Over state government continues to grow faster than the people's wages, with government control becoming more important than individual freedom. The oppressive tax burdens on Maryland citizens has left the state with another 3 billion dollar budget shortfall this year. As recently reported Maryland raised taxes 6.25% last year, as a result we have seen a decrease in state revenue. This fiscal year the state's budget deficit has already reached \$700 million, by the end of the year the deficit could grow as high as \$ 2 billion It is unacceptable to continue with the same budget problems year after year, we must find innovative solutions that will provide the greatest amount of stability for Maryland's future. With the many challenges facing us today, Maryland citizens can not afford more

government intrusion and another tax increase to balance the budget. Raising taxes during a recession would only drive more residence and private sector industry out of the state.

For too long these liberal policies have been robbing us of living up to our full potential as a state. Now is the time to reverse this downward trend in Maryland, by establishing a business friendly environment, with lower taxes for small business and private sector investments. As your Senator my focus will be on addressing the discrepancy between state revenue and spending, by establishing a business friendly environment, with lower taxes for business owners and private sector investments, an economic policy that will bring people and industry back to Maryland. I will seek out ways of cutting inefficiency and wasteful spending in state government. streamlining state serves. Just as Maryland's families have to live with in its means so should our state government.

- **Justice and Security;** We must put an end to Maryland being ranked 5th as the most violent state in the country, It appears that some of our elected officials are more concerned with protecting offenders of crime, than protecting the victims of crimes. I support “truth in sentencing legislation” that requires violent offenders to serve 85 percent of their time. We must also preserve the importance of freedom and protection of the second amendment, for the right of Maryland citizens of self protection.

Over the years we have seen a steady increase in illegal emigration and gang activity in our state, we must enforce federal emigration laws in Maryland. Our state is one of four states in nation that is not in federal compliant with federal guidelines on “truth in I.D”, laws. That requires states to verify the legal status of those seeking state drivers license. It is clear these liberal policies have failed the citizens of this great state, putting a threat to our public safety, and straining our limited resources.

- **Health Care;** As the care giver for my mother with Alzheimer's I understand the concerns of rising health care cost. In order to have real reform in health care, first we must bend the cost curve enough for individuals, businesses to have access to affordable health coverage. For those left out any health coverage, should have access through a basic health plan through a public/private partnership administered by the state. I support giving the states a federal block grant, to enable the states greater flexibility in adapting there own program that fits there needs best. Some of the best solutions on health care reform have come from the local communities not the federal government.

Health care Cont: In order to reduce cost we need to cut unfunded mandates for business owners, and individuals to purchase health care coverage out of state or through a professional, or trade association, reform medical malpractice insurance, and simplify billing process for physician. It is vital that we maintain the patient / physician relationship.

- **Government Transparency and Accountability;** Maryland citizens should be more engaged with the policy discussion that impact there lives, by adapting to the new 2.0 web technology, creating a more user friendly interactive web-site for the state General Assembly. Post in a user friendly format state budgets and expenditures contracts online for public access, providing information that is comprehensive in a search-able use-friendly format.

I am confident that by focusing on these priorities we can over come many of the challenges we are facing. Our states greatest resources are the people, we have an educational system that is among the best in nation, with medical centers that are world renown. Our present leaders have failed by not promoting Maryland as good place to live and work. Just as other states have been successful at attracting business and travel to there state, so should Maryland. It is time Maryland to became more competitive, by developing pro-business policies, that will foster private sector growth, thus increasing state revenue. That is why, as Senator I will be actively engaged in promoting Maryland industry and people. I am hopeful that if we focus on these goals and objectives the “Good Ship Maryland” will prosper and live up to its full potential. The people of this state deserve to have a government that merits your trust and confidence

Whether you are Republican, Democrat, or Independent your concerns and aspirations are the hart of my serves You deserve to have a government that ma rites your trust and confidence. It is my only hope to earn your trust and confidence to serve you in the state Senate.

Respectfully Yours!

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For Maryland

Maryland Senate District 16

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