

2022



ECONOMIC JUSTICE

- Bridge the wealth and economic gaps by increasing economic mobility (such as changes in taxation, addressing income inequality, expand prevailing wage, etc.).
- Transparency within the state and local (county) procurement processes.
- Improve successful participation in state and local procurement projects by requiring the Governor's Office of Small, Minority and Women Business Affairs (GOSBA) to have a mentee in each agency to oversee MBE goals; ensure all information on successful bids, reasons for bid rejections, and all other procurement related information be made public on **eMaryland Marketplace** (eMM), within fifteen (15) days for projects valued at over \$50,000.00.
- Reduce the timeframe for which State agencies must make payments under procurement contracts from 30 days to 15 days.
- Create greater equity in the MBE process, improve the definition of eligibility to include only Women who are either (both) racial or ethnic minorities.
- Amplify assistance for housing stabilization to include foreclosure and eviction assistance (federal, state, and local assistance).
- Support the reversal of institutional, systemic, and long-term community impacts of enslavement and segregation of (post enslavement) on Black Marylanders through **"Reparations"**.
- Encourage entrepreneurship with greater access to capital and assets to include creating a task force to undertake review and evaluation of a **"State Bank"** which could provide increased access to capital for Black businesses and farms in partnership with local financial institutions.

EDUCATION

- Reform the school resource officer program.
- Add a culturally responsive K-12 curriculum that will provide education on race and bias in a manner that leads to an understanding of the ramifications of prejudice and racism.
- Prevent misdemeanor charges against students under the "Maryland Education Code" because they, "willfully disturb or otherwise willfully prevent the orderly conduct of the activities, administration, or classes of any institution of elementary, secondary, or higher education" or "threaten" students or staff.

HEALTHCARE

- Expand access to health coverage services to underserved and vulnerable communities to include Medicaid eligibility for Doula and other maternal health services.
- Address health conditions that stem from systemic medical and social inequalities.
- Increase and protect funding for vital public health programs and strengthen Maryland's public health infrastructure.
- Protect a woman's reproductive rights and right to choose to include broader access and affordability to abortion care; and preventing the prosecution of those who seek, help others to obtain, and provide abortion care.
- Allow employees to take up to 12 weeks of paid family leave.
- Require the Maryland Emergency Management Agency (MEMA) to study and make recommendations for culturally competent training for emergency responders.
- Revitalize efforts to tackle communicable diseases.
- Expand services for community-based mental health care, drug addiction, and for people living in vulnerable situations; hire and retain Black mental health workers, especially Black Men.

CRIMINAL JUSTICE

- Juvenile Justice Reform
 - Ensure greater rights to juveniles taken into custody for questioning by notifying parents, allowing legal consultation, and advising them of their Miranda Rights (juvenile interrogation legislation).
 - Prevent juveniles from being convicted of first-degree murder (life in prison) under the provision of felony murder (repeal the felony murder Statue as applies to juveniles).
 - End the practice of charging juveniles as adults for specific charges (automatic adult jurisdiction).
 - Establish a minimum age for the jurisdiction of juveniles within the juvenile justice system.
- Support a referendum that provides a fair and equitable legal framework towards fully implementing the legalization of marijuana.
- Transparency in all State's Attorneys Offices of data collected for each case prosecuted.
- Allow individuals to sue law enforcement officers personally (eliminate qualified immunity).
- Let the Attorney General or local state's attorney remove eligibility for a police pension when law enforcement is convicted under law with no possibility of appeal.
- Authorize Maryland's Senate to confirm the Chief Judge of the Court of Appeals.
- Require the disclosure and reporting of statistics on race and gender for professional disciplinary actions (e.g. Atty Grievance, Insurance Commissioner and Judicial Disabilities).
- Permit automatic expungement of criminal non-conviction cases that have been shielded under the law, with possible exception for domestic violence cases.

ENVIRONMENT

- Eradicate those energy sources that create pollutants, hazardous waste and water contamination situated near Black communities.
- Affordable access to energy and clean energy.

VOTING RIGHTS

- Prevent disfranchisement of voting rights.
- Increase voting access for eligible incarcerated individuals.

TRANSPORTATION

- Support transportation solutions for Southern Maryland to include funding for public transportation for rural areas.
- Ensure adequate funding for repair and maintenance of the MTA's buses and trains with an **Override of the Governor's Veto of SB199/HB114, the Transit Safety & Investment Act.**

REDISTRICTING

- **Support the Legislative Redistricting Advisory Commission** to ensure an inclusive redistricting process that results in fair and equitable state and congressional legislative map.

COMMEMORATION

- Abolish the observance of Columbus Day on October 12th by celebrating and commemorating the true history of Native Americans with enactment of a statewide holiday, **Indigenous People's Day**.
- Celebrate and commemorate the day that the last Black enslaved people received communication about freedom with the enactment of an official state holiday, **Juneteenth Day**.

WORKER'S RIGHTS

- Expand collective bargaining rights.
- Consolidate collective bargaining across the University System of Maryland with an **Override of the Governor's Veto of SB9.**
- Support the funding of annual step increases for state employees in the state budget.
- Encourage negotiation of the cost-of-living adjustments yearly, based on inflation.