

MARYLAND VOTE 2026

MARYLAND PRIMARY ELECTION CANDIDATE SURVEY GENERAL ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 32

VOTE JUNE 11-18 (early voting) | JUNE 23 (Election Day)

ABOUT THE SURVEYS

The Maryland Catholic Conference surveyed candidates seeking office in the General Assembly (as well as Governor and Congress; see separate documents).

Candidates could choose “agree” or “disagree” and/or provide a statement for these questions:

ASSISTANCE TO THE POOR. Funding in Maryland’s budget should be maintained, and when necessary, increased to provide low-income residents access to basic necessities, such as food, housing and healthcare.

ENVIRONMENT. The State of Maryland should support initiatives such as tax credits or grant programs to encourage Maryland residents, businesses and non-profits to reduce their carbon footprint.

K-12 EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS. The State of Maryland should continue to expand existing funding to provide scholarships for low-income students who wish to attend the K-12 nonpublic school best suited for their educational needs.

PHYSICIAN ASSISTED SUICIDE/MEDICAL AID IN DYING. In 1999, the Maryland General Assembly passed legislation making it a felony for an individual to assist in another individual’s suicide. Maryland should uphold the law in its current form and reject legislation to legalize the practice of physician-assisted suicide/medical aid in dying.

WHY SHOULD MARYLAND CATHOLICS VOTE FOR YOU?

We encourage you to use these materials and the resources at mdcatholic.org/elections, to help you inform your conscience before voting.

Please note: The Maryland Catholic Conference does not endorse or oppose any candidate, under any circumstance, and no inference of endorsement or opposition should be concluded as a result of the information provided here.



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Positions and statements provided by candidates to a Maryland Catholic Conference survey, plus materials at mdcatholic.org/elections, are resources to help you inform your conscience before voting. **Please also see the Governor and U.S. Congress surveys.**

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Candidate statements follow grid

DISTRICT 32			Candidate statements follow grid				Addl. Comments
			Poverty	Environment	Education	Against Physician Assisted Suicide	
STATE SENATE CANDIDATES							
32	D	Mark S. Chang	●	●	X		YES
32	D	Stephen A. Tillett	●	●	X	●	YES
32	R	Justin Gallucci					
STATE DELEGATE CANDIDATES							
32	D	J. Sandy Bartlett		●	X	X	YES
32	D	Spencer F. Dixon					
32	D	Mike Rogers					
32	D	Steven Thomas	●	●	●	X	YES
32	R	Colin McEvers					
32	R	Mary Phelps					
32	R	Marcus Damon Snipes	●	●	●	●	YES

D = Democrat | R= Republican : Green = agree | Red = disagree | Blank = no response

1. ASSISTANCE TO THE POOR

Funding in Maryland’s budget should be maintained, and when necessary, increased to provide low-income residents access to basic necessities, such as food, housing and healthcare.

DISTRICT 32 SENATE CANDIDATES

32	D	Mark S. Chang	Throughout my 12 years of public service in the Maryland House of Delegates and as Vice Chair of the House Appropriations Committee from 2021 to 2025, I have consistently supported increases in our state's budget to provide low-income residents and the marginalized with access to basic necessities of food, housing and healthcare.
32	D	Stephen A. Tillett	I have served as a pastor for the past 36 years in DC and in Maryland, the last 22 in Anne Arundel Co. There is a saying that "a rising tide lifts all boats." I believe that as we serve and elevate the 40% of our fellow citizens who are poor and low wealth, it will improve the quality of life for all of us. As one of the wealthiest states in the US, we should insist that everyone has healthy food, affordable housing and healthcare. "The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much, it is whether we provide enough for those who have too little." (FDR)

DISTRICT 32 DELEGATE CANDIDATES

32	D	J. Sandy Bartlett	This is a basic function of government and humanity.
32	D	Steven Thomas	Community Wellness is based upon all community members meeting Maslovian needs including nutrition, clothing, safe housing and proper sleep and rest. These are basic humanitarian needs that everyone should have.

2. ENVIRONMENT

The State of Maryland should support initiatives such as tax credits or grant programs to encourage Maryland residents, businesses and non-profits to reduce their carbon footprint.

DISTRICT 32 SENATE CANDIDATES

32	D	Mark S. Chang	Humbly, I have been endorsed by the Maryland League of Conservation Voters and Maryland Sierra Club for my strong environmental record of being a good steward of our natural resources and reducing carbon footprint.
32	D	Stephen A. Tillett	There is no "Planet B." We will either be good stewards of this world the Lord has given us, or selfishness and greed will make it so it is uninhabitable for any of us. We must intentionally reduce our carbon footprint, while we have time, and the clock IS ticking!

DISTRICT 32 DELEGATE CANDIDATES

32	D	J. Sandy Bartlett	Non-profits are invaluable.
32	D	Steven Thomas	We have an obligation to protect the environment for our future generations. As a community we are facing the repercussions of global warming and we must take steps to prevent additional damage to the environment.

3. K-12 EDUCATIONAL OPTIONS

The State of Maryland should continue to expand existing funding to provide scholarships for low-income students who wish to attend the K-12 nonpublic school best suited for their educational needs.

DISTRICT 32 SENATE CANDIDATES

32	D	Stephen A. Tillett	I would not repeal what has already been done, but school choice is a choice. For those who send their children to parochial or private schools, we do so with the understanding it's not free. I support the full funding of our public schools and honoring the Blueprint for Maryland's Future.
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DISTRICT 32 DELEGATE CANDIDATES

32	D	J. Sandy Bartlett	The state must continue to fully fund public schools and charter schools. If a child has special needs, the state can provide funding for the child.
32	D	Steven Thomas	Maryland should maintain levels of funding for private education options. Our education system is dependent on private schools as public schools would be overwhelmed without private school education.

4. PHYSICIAN ASSISTED SUICIDE/MEDICAL AID IN DYING

In 1999, the Maryland General Assembly passed legislation making it a felony for an individual to assist in another individual's suicide. Maryland should uphold the law in its current form and reject legislation to legalize the practice of physician-assisted suicide/medical aid in dying.

DISTRICT 32 SENATE CANDIDATES

32	D	Stephen A. Tillett	I have been in many hospital rooms and visited with sick numerous members in their homes. I've watched as family members and friends dear to me have suffered and languished when they no longer have quality of life. However, I do not believe it is the right thing for us to grant ourselves that authority to take life. To be pro-life means to support life from birth to death and entrust it all to God.
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DISTRICT 32 DELEGATE CANDIDATES

32	D	J. Sandy Bartlett	I support the legislation to give patients with a terminal diagnosis the option to explore their medical options for a peaceful transition. I compare this option with the do not resuscitate option. I believe that it is inhumane for patients to have to suffer to the debilitating levels that some terminal illnesses progress.
32	D	Steven Thomas	I have been working in suicide prevention for the past 10 years and am currently on the Fatal Suicide Review Team finding ways to prevent suicide. Life is precious and we should always preserve life when possible.

5. WHY SHOULD MARYLAND CATHOLICS VOTE FOR YOU?

DISTRICT 32 SENATE CANDIDATES

32	D	Mark S. Chang	As a son of immigrants who arrived in Maryland in the 1970's with very little means, it has been an honor of a lifetime to represent & serve thousands of Catholics in Maryland's 32nd Legislative District in the House of Delegates. With kindness, compassion and strength by grace, I would be forever grateful to serve in the Maryland Senate with the same selfless spirit.
32	D	Stephen A. Tillett	Catholics and Protestants are all Christians, guided by the same sacred texts and principles. As a minister of the Gospel, I believe my stands on most issues will be consistent with those Catholics in Maryland support. Even when there is a possible difference of opinion, I believe we should come and "reason together" and try to find common ground. I salute Pope Leo in his efforts to embrace and serve all of humanity. However, if we differ on an issue, that does not make us permanent foes. We should not lose focus on the majority of issues where we agree.

DISTRICT 32 DELEGATE CANDIDATES

32	D	J. Sandy Bartlett	I know I have two fundamental viewpoints that differ from Maryland Catholics, but I align with more issues of Maryland Catholics than I differ.
32	D	Steven Thomas	I was christened and confirmed Catholic. My son and daughter attended Monsignor Slade Catholic School. My daughter graduated from The Catholic High School of Baltimore and my son graduated from Archbishop Curley High School. I believe my Catholic upbringing has given me my family values and an understanding of the needs of marginalized communities. I have spent my career as a community police officer fighting for those who cannot always fight for themselves.
32	R	Marcus Damon Snipes	I understand how policy affects real families because I have lived it. Faith teaches us to protect the vulnerable and strengthen families.