

MARYLAND VOTE 2026

MARYLAND PRIMARY ELECTION CANDIDATE SURVEY GENERAL ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 40

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 40			Candidate statements follow grid				
			Poverty	Environment	Education	Against Physician Assisted Suicide	Addl. Comments
STATE SENATE CANDIDATES							
40	D	Steven Messmer					
STATE DELEGATE CANDIDATES							
40	D	Marlon D. Amprey					
40	D	Frank M. Conaway					
40	D	Dianté Edwards	●	●	X	X	Yes
40	D	Anderson Jean	●	●	●	●	Yes
40	D	Kevin Legacy					
40	D	Crystal Jackson Parker					
40	D	Tiffany Welch					
40	D	Melissa Wells					

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 40 SENATE CANDIDATES

No responses.

DISTRICT 40 DELEGATE CANDIDATES

40	D	Dianté Edwards	My housing plan is designed fully around creating more affordability in housing and providing our residents with more pathways out of poverty and toward stability.
40	D	Anderson Jean	Maryland must maintain—and when necessary, increase—funding to ensure low-income residents have access to basic necessities like food, housing, and healthcare. A strong safety net is not only a moral responsibility, but also a smart investment in the stability and economic health of our communities. When families can meet their basic needs, they are better able to work, contribute, and thrive. Strategic, accountable investments in these areas strengthen Maryland as a whole.

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 40 SENATE CANDIDATES

No responses.

DISTRICT 40 DELEGATE CANDIDATES

40	D	Anderson Jean	Maryland should support targeted tax credits and grant programs that help residents, businesses, and nonprofits reduce their carbon footprint. Incentivizing cleaner energy use and sustainable practices is a practical way to address environmental challenges while also lowering long-term costs and creating economic opportunities. These initiatives should be structured to ensure accountability, measurable impact, and equitable access so that all communities can benefit from a cleaner, more sustainable future.
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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 40 SENATE CANDIDATES

No responses.

DISTRICT 40 DELEGATE CANDIDATES

40	D	Dianté Edwards	Voucher programs that provide public funds to private schools detract from public school funding and should not be continued. While I support private schools creating scholarship funds and endowments to support low income youth attending their programs that best suit their needs, I believe the best use of public funding is in delivering a world class public education to Maryland youth.
40	D	Anderson Jean	Maryland should ensure that every student regardless of income has access to a high quality education that meets their individual needs. Expanding scholarship opportunities for low-income families can provide important flexibility and choice, particularly when a nonpublic school may be the best fit for a student's learning environment. At the same time, these efforts must be balanced with strong support and investment in public schools, ensuring that all students benefit from a well-funded and effective education system.

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 40 DELEGATE CANDIDATES

40	D	Dianté Edwards	Medical aid in dying is a very serious process that is never undertaken lightly. Medical aid in dying can provide much-needed relief from chronic suffering that other treatments are unable to provide, particularly in terminal illnesses. I support a repeal of the 1999 criminalization legislation, and new legislation that establishes a regulated system for medical aid in dying that is based on global best practices.
40	D	Anderson Jean	Maryland should approach this issue with care, compassion, and respect for both human dignity and ethical responsibility. While the desire to alleviate suffering is deeply important, the state must prioritize protecting vulnerable individuals and maintaining strong safeguards within the healthcare system. Emphasis should remain on expanding access to high-quality palliative and hospice care, ensuring that no one feels their only option is to end their life. Any consideration of changes to current law must be approached cautiously, with clear protections and broad public consensus.

5. WHY SHOULD MARYLAND CATHOLICS VOTE FOR YOU?

DISTRICT 40 SENATE CANDIDATES

No responses.

DISTRICT 40 DELEGATE CANDIDATES

40	D	Dianté Edwards	Maryland Catholics should vote for me because I believe in a community-first, servant leadership approach that embodies compassion for our neighbors. My values are rooted in doing what is right for our communities, not what is easy. Maryland Catholics should vote for me because, as a Navy veteran and lifelong community servant, I know what it looks like to show up and work hard in the way our Baltimore communities deserve.
40	D	Anderson Jean	Maryland Catholics can place their trust in my candidacy because my vision is rooted in the dignity of every human person, a life of service, and an enduring commitment to the common good. I am devoted to strengthening families, protecting seniors, and expanding access to education and healthcare so all may flourish. "A New Way Forward" calls us to lead with humility, integrity, and moral clarity. I will govern with compassion and accountability, upholding religious freedom—so together, we build a Maryland defined by care, justice, and shared responsibility.