

# MARYLAND VOTE 2026

---

## MARYLAND PRIMARY ELECTION CANDIDATE SURVEY GENERAL ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 8

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](https://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.*



# MARYLAND VOTE 2026

## MARYLAND PRIMARY ELECTION CANDIDATE SURVEY GENERAL ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 8

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

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

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.

*Candidate statements follow grid*

DISTRICT 8			Candidate statements follow grid				Addl. Comments
			Poverty	Environment	Education	Against Physician Assisted Suicide	
<b>STATE SENATE CANDIDATES</b>							
8	D	Carl Jackson					
8	R	Yahu Blackwell	●	X	●	●	Yes
<b>STATE DELEGATE CANDIDATES</b>							
8	D	Nick Allen					
8	D	Kumasi J. Barnett					
8	D	Harry Bhandari					
8	D	Marsha Briley-Savage					
8	D	Kim L. Ross					
8	R	Zulieka A. Baysmore					
8	R	Brian A. Campbell					
8	R	Glen Geelhaar	●	X	●	●	Yes
8	R	Steven J. Riemer	●	●	●	X	Yes
8	R	Jacqueline Stevenson					

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 8 SENATE CANDIDATES

8	R	Yahu Blackwell	Warm greetings, for the past 13 years I have been feeding and providing resources for the less fortunate in our community. The book of Proverbs 19:17 says "Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the Lord, and he will reward them for what they have done". Greatness, is not about how well you perform a skill (singing, dancing, sports etc.). Greatness is about how you served others.
---	---	----------------	--

### DISTRICT 8 DELEGATE CANDIDATES

8	R	Glen Geelhaar	Maryland has an obligation to take care of those who can not take care of themselves. The Disabled, and adoption services should be fully funded.
8	R	Steven J. Riemer	I am running for state delegate Baltimore County district 8. I intend to serve with integrity and honesty bringing common sense and transparency to the district as well as Annapolis. I intend to look at reducing waste, passing common sense legislation to benefit Marylander's and well as look increasing safety, addressing crime Putting residents and business owners first.

## 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 8 SENATE CANDIDATES

---

8	R	Yahu Blackwell	I truly believe we all want a healthy, clean, and prosperous environment. But unfortunately, the environmentalism movement has been compromised by radicals who are mandating expensive, unrealistic, and unreliable energy generation exclusively from wind and solar. So many churches and spiritual institutions have been negatively impacted, which has hindered them from serving our communities.
---	---	----------------	--

---

### DISTRICT 8 DELEGATE CANDIDATES

---

8	R	Glen Geelhaar	We all want a healthy and clean environment. Sadly, the environmentalism movement has been hijacked by radicals who are mandating expensive, unreliable energy generation exclusively from wind and solar. Our churches are being seriously hindered from their mission to take care of the sick and most vulnerable among us because of energy bills in the thousands of dollars. Mark 4:39 tells us that Jesus got up, rebuked the wind, and said to the waves to be quiet. God is in control of the weather, not man.
8	R	Steven J. Riemer	Yes, I believe the state should help individuals, businesses and organizations to reduce carbon footprint

---

### 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 8 SENATE CANDIDATES

---

8	R	Yahu Blackwell	I 1000% agree. The basis of my platform is education. I have been shouting from the mountain tops, that if we fix education, we will fix the entire state of Maryland. I support school choice, and our resources should be going towards our children, for they are the next generation. Families should be in charge of their children's, not a cookie cut system that has failed so many. Whether it be faith-based education, trades, home school, etc. Families should be able to decide what's best for their children.
---	---	----------------	---

---

#### DISTRICT 8 DELEGATE CANDIDATES

---

8	R	Glen Geelhaar	Our children deserve the best education. This is why I support school choice. Our tax dollars are paid by hard working Marylanders, and the money should follow the children. Whether it be a faith based education, trades, or even home school. Families should be in charge and not the politicians.
8	R	Steven J. Riemer	Yes, I believe in school choice as well as giving individuals in need the resources and assistance to pursue private education as well

---

#### 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 8 SENATE CANDIDATES

8	R	Yahu Blackwell	The book of Genesis 9:6 teaches us "Whoever sheds human blood, by humans shall their blood be shed; for in the image of God has God made mankind".
---	---	----------------	--

##### DISTRICT 8 DELEGATE CANDIDATES

8	R	Glen Geelhaar	The bible tells us that we were created in the image of God. We must stand up and protect the dignity of all human life.
8	R	Steven J. Riemer	That should be a natural act of God and should not be invoked by doctors and science.

#### 5. WHY SHOULD MARYLAND CATHOLICS VOTE FOR YOU?

##### DISTRICT 8 SENATE CANDIDATES

8	R	Yahu Blackwell	My father is rabbi and I'm a boxing champion. I bring both a warrior spirit with Christian values. I grew up on biblical values that has guided my moral compass. We need light in Annapolis; We need someone who will fight for our communities with the fear of God. Our great state is becoming unrecognizable; it's time we bring real warriors who will stand for what's right. I don't represent the party; I represent the mandate of the people.
---	---	----------------	--

##### DISTRICT 8 DELEGATE CANDIDATES

8	R	Glen Geelhaar	Ever since I was a young child, the Priest would ask us to pray to protect the unborn. The congregation would reply, "Lord hear our Prayer." I would ask myself how many people here mean those words? It seems like election after election, we see Catholics voting in increasing numbers for pro-abortion candidates! Jeremiah 1:5 tells us that God knew us before we were formed in the womb. Life begins at conception. We need to elect candidates who will honor their obligation to protect the pre-born. As a candidate, I need more than your Prayers, I need your vote!
8	R	Steven J. Riemer	I am a confirmed Catholic who believes in traditional morals and values and will serve Marylanders with integrity and honesty putting their needs first.