

# Maryland Governor

## THE ISSUES

DAN  
COX

REPUBLICAN



WES  
MOORE

DEMOCRAT



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<b>LEGAL ABORTION</b> Ban or legal?	Ban. <a href="#">"I firmly believe in pro-life values."</a> Would <a href="#">"stop...taxpayer funds"</a> going to <a href="#">out-of-state patients seeking abortion</a> in state. Sponsored a bill prohibiting abortions of fetuses <a href="#">with a heartbeat</a> , at roughly six weeks.	Legal. <a href="#">"I believe that abortion is health care"</a> and will make <a href="#">"reproductive care more affordable and accessible."</a> Would <a href="#">"ensure Maryland will be a safe haven for abortion."</a>
<b>CLIMATE</b> Should climate change be a top priority? Tax or limit the output of greenhouse gases, or support renewable energy?	No. Voted against bills that support <a href="#">lowering greenhouse gas emissions</a> , <a href="#">conversion to zero-emission buses</a> , and <a href="#">more jobs in clean energy sector</a> .	Yes. <a href="#">"Everyone has a role to play in addressing the climate crisis, because this crisis is impacting everyone."</a> Wants <a href="#">"100% clean energy by 2035 and net-zero emissions by 2045."</a> Will invest in <a href="#">electric vehicles and green and solar buses</a> .
<b>EDUCATION</b> Use public funding for private and/or for-profit schools?	Yes. Supports parental choice for schools and <a href="#">providing funding for "private, charter, and homeschool K-12 learning."</a> Sponsored a bill to <a href="#">provide grants to students attending public and nonpublic schools</a> during Covid school shutdowns.	Unclear. Asked about vouchers for private schools, said <a href="#">"I just look forward to working with the legislature to come up with the correct answer."</a>
<b>EDUCATION</b> How to address the teaching of issues around racism and gender identity?	<a href="#">Proposed amendments</a> prohibiting classroom instruction on sexual orientation and gender identity; calls it <a href="#">"gender identity indoctrination."</a> Says schools are teaching critical race theory, and <a href="#">"parents are tired of the radical left using their children as social experiments."</a>	<a href="#">"We have to love our country enough to tell the hard truths about its history."</a> Will work toward <a href="#">"LGBTQ+-affirming policies"</a> at schools to combat harassment, provide tool and resources, and offer mental health care.
<b>EDUCATION</b> Increase funding for K-12 and higher education?	Mixed. <a href="#">Voted against</a> legislation <a href="#">increasing education funding by \$3.8 billion per year for 10 years</a> . Supports <a href="#">raising teachers' salaries</a> . <a href="#">Voted to increase student financial aid</a> to higher education. <a href="#">Voted to provide additional funding to historically Black colleges</a> .	Yes. <a href="#">Will fully fund and implement</a> Blueprint legislation <a href="#">increasing education funding by \$3.8 billion per year for 10 years</a> . Will work with <a href="#">local jurisdictions, "parents, teachers, students"</a> to <a href="#">"build a world-class public education system."</a>
<b>ELECTIONS</b> Did Joe Biden legitimately win the 2020 Presidential election?	No. As one of <a href="#">"President Trump's volunteer lawyers,"</a> <a href="#">"has led the fight for election integrity."</a> Would <a href="#">"order a forensic audit of the 2020 election."</a>	Yes. Campaigning with Biden, said <a href="#">"we are up against an election denier."</a> Referenced <a href="#">"Trump's lies about the 2020 election."</a>
<b>ENVIRONMENT</b> Loosen or tighten environmental regulations?	Mostly loosen. Wants to <a href="#">end the fracking ban</a> to produce more energy. Voted against bills that established an <a href="#">electric school bus pilot program</a> and that prohibited <a href="#">wild animal trafficking</a> and <a href="#">balloon releases</a> . <a href="#">Voted for a bill</a> prohibiting selling or distributing items with <a href="#">PFAS chemicals</a> .	Tighten. Supports a <a href="#">"cap-and-invest" program that could tax polluters</a> . Supports <a href="#">"environmental justice"</a> and would <a href="#">"effectively regulate polluting facilities."</a>
<b>GUN RULES</b> Pass less or more restrictive legislation on guns?	Less. <a href="#">"I stand for constitutional carry;"</a> would <a href="#">"cease enforcement of unconstitutional gun laws in Maryland."</a> <a href="#">Voted against expanded background checks</a> and statewide <a href="#">tracking of firearm crimes</a> .	More. Will <a href="#">expand background checks</a> , implement extreme risk protective order laws, and eliminate ghost guns. <a href="#">"I am committed to strengthening our gun laws."</a>

ISSUES	COX (R)	MOORE (D)
<b>HEALTH CARE</b> Increase government role in health care, such as expanding Medicaid, and limiting drug prices, or promoting COVID safety?	No. In 2016, said <a href="#">supports “free-market approach”</a> and <a href="#">opposes a “government-run healthcare.”</a> <a href="#">Voted against</a> a bill to <a href="#">“maximizing enrollment”...</a> <a href="#">in affordable insurance programs.”</a> Calls COVID-19 health measures <a href="#">“oppression”</a> and tried to <a href="#">impeach Governor Hogan</a> for COVID measures he took.	Yes. <a href="#">“Health care is a fundamental right”</a> and <a href="#">“will ensure universal access to affordable health coverage.”</a> Supports <a href="#">more Medicaid funding for low-income people.</a> Called for <a href="#">increases in home-tests, testing sites, and vaccination rates to better control COVID-19.</a>
<b>IMMIGRATION</b> How to handle immigration? Support a path to citizenship for “DACA” participants brought to the US as children?	Will <a href="#">“end” crime through immigration policy.</a> In 2016 said would <a href="#">“end ‘sanctuary’ cities”</a> and <a href="#">“secure our borders.”</a> <a href="#">Voted</a> against bills to extend a <a href="#">tax credit to undocumented taxpaying immigrants</a> and <a href="#">expand immigrants' protections.</a> Opposed a bill <a href="#">prohibiting police from asking suspects their immigration status.</a>	<a href="#">“Immigration is what make our country rich.”</a> As the CEO of a nonprofit foundation, <a href="#">pushed for support for immigrant families left out of the American Rescue Plan,</a> and gave \$150,000 to a college in NYC to help <a href="#">undocumented DACA students.</a>
<b>LABOR</b> Make it easier or harder for unions to organize?	Harder. <a href="#">Voted against</a> a bill allowing <a href="#">union members to subtract their union dues from their income tax.</a>	Easier. Believes <a href="#">“strong unions are essential” to a thriving economy.</a> Will <a href="#">“strengthen collective bargaining”</a> for teachers. Unions <a href="#">“will always have a voice and seat at the table.”</a>
<b>LGBTQ RIGHTS</b> Limit or expand LGBTQ rights?	Limit. Opposes <a href="#">“gender indoctrination”</a> in schools and <a href="#">transgender athletes</a> participating in women’s sports. Voted against a bill prohibiting <a href="#">discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity</a> in schools, and another bill requiring licenses and ID cards to have an <a href="#">unspecified/other sex option.</a>	Expand. Would <a href="#">adopt LGBTQ+ affirming policies in schools, provide gender-affirming health care</a> to transgender people, and support <a href="#">LGBTQ+ businesses.</a> Fought to <a href="#">repeal the Don’t Ask Don’t Tell law.</a> <a href="#">“Being gay isn’t a choice. Ignorance and intolerance is.”</a>
<b>MARIJUANA</b> Should recreational marijuana be banned or legal?	Banned. <a href="#">Opposes the recreational marijuana ballot initiative.</a> <a href="#">Voted against</a> a bill that set <a href="#">legal amounts for marijuana possession and home cultivation.</a>	Legal. <a href="#">Supports the recreational marijuana ballot initiative.</a> Legalizing <a href="#">“is a meaningful way to combat racial inequities.”</a> Will <a href="#">“expunge the records of anyone convicted of simple possession.”</a>
<b>MINIMUM WAGE</b> Keep or raise the state minimum from \$12.50 per hour? If raise, how much?	No recent position found, but in 2019, <a href="#">voted against a bill to raise the minimum wage to \$15 by 2025.</a>	Raise. <a href="#">Would accelerate the wage increase to \$15 by 2023.</a> <a href="#">“It will not (take) until 2025 in my administration.”</a>
<b>POLICE AND COMMUNITY</b> How to address police use of force?	Will back the police, <a href="#">maintain “quasi-immunity,” “double their pay,”</a> and <a href="#">treat them like “heroes.”</a> <a href="#">Voted against</a> independent investigation of <a href="#">use of force</a> resulting in death. <a href="#">Voted against</a> making <a href="#">officer misconduct records available to public.</a>	With the <a href="#">“responsibility” of being a police officer, “there’s going to be accountability.”</a> Supports <a href="#">civilian review boards.</a> Wants a police force committed to <a href="#">“abolishing police brutality... racial profiling... and the no-knock warrants.”</a>
<b>STUDENT FINANCIAL AID</b> Support lowering interest on student loans or forgiving them?	No. Calls loan forgiveness <a href="#">“an affront to everyone in the state of Maryland.”</a> The issue is not <a href="#">“reducing interest”</a> but making sure <a href="#">“the economy is working again.”</a>	Yes. Supports <a href="#">loan forgiveness as a STEM incentive.</a> Will <a href="#">increase “funding for financial aid”</a> and <a href="#">expand the Student Loan Debt Tax Credit.</a>
<b>TAXES</b> Should corporations and wealthier individuals pay less or more taxes?	Less. Supports <a href="#">lowering “property taxes,” “corporate taxes,”</a> and <a href="#">“fuel taxes.”</a> In 2016, said will <a href="#">“grow jobs... by lowering the business and individual tax rates.”</a>	More. Supports <a href="#">“a more progressive tax policy”</a> to ensure <a href="#">“everyone pays their fair share.”</a> Supports raising <a href="#">“the tax rate for higher income levels”</a> and <a href="#">reforming corporate tax codes.</a>
<b>VOTING RULES</b> Support tightened restrictions on such voting rules as absentee and early voting, and voter ID?	Yes. Supports <a href="#">a voter ID requirement.</a> Voted against allowing <a href="#">addition of missing signatures on mailed-in ballots</a> and permitting voters to get <a href="#">automatic mail-in ballots.</a>	No. <a href="#">“Voting should always be easy and safe for everyone.”</a> Supports <a href="#">“early voting systems”</a> and <a href="#">“mail-in balloting.”</a> Criticized a <a href="#">voter ID bill</a> in 2021, calling it <a href="#">“voter suppression.”</a>

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