

Progressive Cheverly
Legislative Priorities—General Assembly 2008

5 Critical Bills

- ***Global Warming Solutions*** (SB 309 and HB 712)– establishes limits on greenhouse gas emissions with timelines, and allows for a cap-and-trade system
- ***Death Penalty Repeal*** (SB 645 and HB 1328) – repeals the death penalty and replaces existing sentences with life imprisonment without possibility of parole
- ***Religious Freedom and Civil Marriage Protection Act*** (SB 290 and HB 351) – establishes that a marriage is between two persons and prohibits religious officials from being required to solemnize any marriage
- ***Prince George’s County Hospital Authority*** (*2007 HB 510)– establishes a hospital authority to develop a long-term strategy to provide high quality community-oriented health care to all county residents
- ***Public Campaign Financing Act for Candidates for the General Assembly*** (SB 593 and HB 971) – establishes a system of public financing for campaigns with specified campaign expenditure limits

* Bills not yet introduced in 2008 are noted by their 2007 bill number.

Progressive Cheverly also supports these initiatives:

- **Criminal Justice Reforms:** Promote initiatives related to eliminating racial bias in policing and adjudication; provide alternatives for juvenile justice
- **Education:** Ensure funding for all pre-K thru 12 students; control college tuition
- **Election Reform:** Ensure viability and integrity of the electoral process: support measures such as “paper trail,” “instant runoff,” a longer period for voting, constitutionally viable efforts to eliminate patently dishonest campaigning; resist limitations to voter rights such as “voter fraud” requirements for ID
- **Energy:** Improve oversight of energy companies and make energy more affordable to customers; encourage conservation by government, businesses and individuals
- **Environmental Protection:** Safeguard the Chesapeake Bay; encourage alternative energy sources; protect green space (especially in urban areas); build the Purple Line; oppose ICC
- **Health Care:** Ensure access to health care for all Maryland residents.
- **Housing:** Improve regulation of lending practices and reform foreclosure practices
- **Justice for Immigrants:** Protect fair labor practices, and improve access to benefits such as health care, education and legal services
- **LGBT Equality:** Resist amendments to the State Constitution that would discriminate against same-sex and other unmarried couples; support extending domestic partnership benefits; amend anti-discrimination laws to include gender identity as a protected category
- **Racial Reconciliation:** Support penalties for hate speech such as noose hanging; move or better interpret the Taney statue on the State House grounds
- **Taxation:** Support efforts to make the tax code more equitable and progressive; resist efforts to repeal the computer services tax without an appropriate replacement source of funding