



2011 Local Baltimore City Candidate Survey

Maryland Right to Life (MDRTL) surveys all candidates who could impact the Right to Life movement. Pursuant to Article 25A of the Maryland Constitution, relevant Attorney General Opinions, and the legislative history of the Baltimore City Council, the City of Baltimore has the authority to legislate on issues of concern to the Pro-Life movement.

Candidate's Name ___ Lorenzo Gaztanaga

Office Sought ___ City Council President District (if applicable) _____ Political Party ___ Libertarian

Name of Campaign Committee ___ Friends of Lorenzo Gaztanaga

Campaign Address ___ 4806 Hamilton Avenue, Apt. 2D, Baltimore, MD 21206

Contact Person ___ Susan Gaztanaga Phone ___ 443-414-6539

Fax _____ Email ___ DiazVivar@aol.com

Signature of Candidate _____

Abortion

1. Maryland Right to Life (MDRTL) believes the law should protect unborn children, and that abortion should be permitted only when necessary to prevent the death of the mother.
Under what circumstances, if any, do you believe that abortion should be legal?
 - (a) _____ Only to prevent the death of the mother (the MDRTL position).
 - (b) _____ To prevent the mother's death, in cases of incest committed against a minor, and in reported cases of forcible rape.
 - (c) Other (please explain) ___ Abortion should not be prohibited by law because that infringes on religious freedom.
2. Will you oppose government funding of abortion, through health insurance subsidies, Medicaid payments, and grants to organizations that perform or refer for abortions?

YES ___ X NO _____
3. Many women who undergo abortions later regret that they were not given complete information about the life of the unborn child beforehand.
Would you support local legislation that requires an abortionist who performs an ultrasound prior to performing an abortion to offer the mother the opportunity to see the active ultrasound image of her unborn baby if the mother elects to view the image?

YES ___ X NO _____

4. Many states have passed a “Woman’s Right to Know bill” which protects a woman’s right to know the medical risks associated with abortion, its alternatives, and nonjudgmental, scientifically accurate information about the development of her unborn child before making this permanent and life-affecting decision.

Would you support a law that specially requires women be given the information described above, at least 24 hours prior to an abortion being performed?

YES ☒X_____ NO _____

5. 46 of 50 states collect statistics on the number of abortions that occur within the state. Many also collect various data, such as gestational and maternal age, number of prior abortions, the method of abortion, reported complications, and reason for seeking an abortion. This data is often used to evaluate the effectiveness of family planning programs and efforts to reduce teen pregnancy. Would you support an abortion-reporting requirement that ensures the privacy of the patient?

YES ☒X_____ NO _____

Support for Pregnant Women

6. Pro-life charities known as pregnancy resource centers (PRCs) work tirelessly in Maryland’s communities to help women in need overcome perceived obstacles to carrying a pregnancy to term. Among other things, PRCs provide counseling, emotional support, and material assistance at no cost to their clients. Maryland’s pro-life PRCs do not receive any subsidies from the state. They do not provide or refer for abortions and some choose not to provide or refer for contraception.

In 2009–2010, two local bills targeting pro-life pregnancy resource centers in Baltimore City and Montgomery County were passed in spite of the fact that the impacted PRCs have never received a bona fide complaint from an actual client and are highly regarded in their communities. Family planning centers that do provide or refer for abortions and/or contraception (i.e., Planned Parenthood) were excluded from regulation under the bills. The Baltimore City law was later declared unconstitutional. The Montgomery County law has been stayed pending a decision in that constitutional challenge. Similar legislation was introduced in both the Maryland House of Delegates and the Maryland Senate in 2008, but no votes occurred in either committee after presentation of overwhelming opposition.

Would you support the repeal of Health Article §3-501 through §3-506, and Article 1 §40-14 (e) (7) and §41-14 (6), in Baltimore, which exclusively regulate the protocol of pro-life pregnancy resource centers which do not provide or refer for abortions or contraception?

YES ☒X_____ NO _____

11. Oregon and Washington have adopted laws legalizing prescription of lethal drugs to allow doctor prescribed suicide. Such policy has resulted in undue pressure on the elderly and disabled communities to end their lives and has resulted in denial of lifesaving care due to suicide prescriptions being cheaper than life supporting healthcare.

Would you oppose the legalization of assisting suicide through lethal prescription?

YES _____ NO _____

General

12. Do you consider yourself Pro-Life?

YES _____ NO (please explain position) _____

Please explain any way in which you feel you have been a voice for the pro-life movement, such as relevant votes or bill sponsorships, public statements, or any activities or experiences that demonstrate your commitment to the cause of Life.

Additional comments _____

Signature of Candidate