

# Maryland US Senate 2024

## THE ISSUES

ANGELA  
ALSOBROOKS

DEMOCRAT



LARRY  
HOGAN

REPUBLICAN



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### ABORTION

Ban or legal?

**Legal.** [Supports](#) the [Women's Health Protection Act](#) to federally protect abortion access. "[Will oppose](#) any judicial nominee who does not support abortion rights." [Opposes](#) efforts in Congress to defund Planned Parenthood.

**Mostly legal.** In 2022, [vetoed](#) the [Abortion Care Access Act](#); it expanded the pool of authorized abortion providers. [Withheld funding](#) designated to train new providers. In 2024 said [supports](#) "restoring Roe as the law of the land" and [would](#) add abortion rights to federal law.

### CLIMATE CHANGE

Should climate change be a top priority?

**Yes.** "[Urgent action](#) is necessary to address the climate crisis." Climate change, is "[an existential threat](#) for all of our families and children." [Supports](#) Biden climate change laws, including [\\$369 billion](#) in clean energy spending and funding to [reduce](#) greenhouse gases.

**Mostly yes.** [Adopted](#) Biden's [Better Climate Challenge](#), & [joined](#) the U.S. Climate Alliance. Let Maryland's [Clean Energy Jobs Act](#) become law without his signature. [Preferred](#) his [plan](#), featuring nuclear energy. [Canceled](#) the Baltimore mass transit Red Line with \$300M already invested; shifted state funds to roads.

### CRIMINAL JUSTICE

How to ensure effectiveness and fairness in law enforcement?

"[Believes](#) in the need for comprehensive changes that promote safety, justice, and equity for all residents." [Implemented](#) reforms enhancing police accountability. "[Everyone has the right to feel secure](#)" in their homes, schools, businesses.

[Boosted](#) police funding, calling it "re-fund the police." [Vetoed](#) police reform bills, including body-camera mandates and limits on "no-knock" warrants. [Let a bill](#) become law without his signature that created a state unit to investigate police-involved deaths.

### ECONOMY

Decrease or increase government investment in, and regulation of, the economy?

**Increase.** [Supports](#) "critical investments into our future economy to ensure businesses [can] compete with companies around the globe." Advocates for "[investing in humans](#)": "When I think about true economic opportunity, I think about things like a child tax credit."

**Mixed.** "[Instead of](#) more reckless government spending, our plan demands real fiscal responsibility." As governor, "[eliminated or rewrote](#) thousands of job-killing regulations." In 2021 [asked Congress](#) to speed up approval of infrastructure projects.

### ELECTIONS

Did Joe Biden win the 2020 Presidential election?

**Yes.** "MAGA Republicans "[undermined our elections](#) and democratic processes and led an armed insurrection against our Capitol."

**Yes.** [Accusations](#) without evidence of a stolen election were "really bad for our democratic process."

### ENVIRONMENT

Loosen or tighten environmental regulations?

**Tighten.** As county executive, increased [stormwater management](#) to protect the Chesapeake Bay. Supports [additional funding](#) for Bay clean-up; the Bay should be named a [National Recreation Area](#). [Expanded](#) a countywide curbside composting program.

**Mixed.** [Signed a bill banning](#) fracking in 2017. Opposed clean energy legislation in [2016](#) and [2022](#), though allowed the 2022 bill to become law without signing it. [Proposed](#) his own set of clean energy goals in 2019. [Eased regulations](#) on industrial poultry farm emissions.

### GUN LAWS

Loosen or tighten gun regulation?

**Tighten.** "[Current](#) gun laws are inadequate." [Supports](#) universal background checks and closing the gun show loophole; would ban military-style weapons and bump stocks. [Supports](#) "red flag" laws.

**Mixed.** [Relaxed](#) rules on concealed handguns after a U.S. Supreme Court ruling. [Vetoed](#) tougher background checks on gun transfers. [Let](#) a "ghost guns" ban take effect without signing it. [Signed](#) a "red flag" law.

ISSUES	ALSOBROOKS (D)	HOGAN (R)
<b>HEALTHCARE</b> Increase or decrease government support for health care? Support or oppose Obamacare?	<b>Increase.</b> “ <a href="#">Healthcare</a> is a fundamental right... As Senator, I will work to defend and build upon the Affordable Care Act.” <a href="#">Supports</a> universal paid family and medical leave policies.	<b>Mostly increase.</b> <a href="#">Defended</a> Obamacare against a 2017 proposal to repeal it. In 2018 <a href="#">signed</a> a bill to strengthen publicly supported health care. <a href="#">Vetoed</a> partially paid family medical or care leave.
<b>IMMIGRATION</b> How to handle immigration and the border? Support a path to citizenship for “DACA” participants brought to the US as children?	<a href="#">Supports</a> “comprehensive immigration reform” with “a pathway to citizenship” for those already living in the U.S. <a href="#">Backs</a> a <a href="#">path</a> to permanent residence for DACA participants. Allow <a href="#">undocumented</a> immigrants to get a driver’s license & “legally commute to work.”	“ <a href="#">Our open</a> southern border is a humanitarian catastrophe that is harming communities and wreaking havoc.” <a href="#">Supports</a> “bipartisan, commonsense solutions.” As governor, <a href="#">vetoed</a> “sanctuary state” status for undocumented immigrants.
<b>LABOR</b> Make it easier or harder for unions to organize?	<b>Easier.</b> Is “ <a href="#">committed</a> to protecting workers’ rights.” <a href="#">Supports a bill</a> to strengthen collective bargaining rights and protect the right to organize.	<b>Harder.</b> <a href="#">Vetoed</a> bills to expand collective rights for college employees. In 2016 <a href="#">called</a> teachers’ union leaders “thugs.”
<b>LGBTQ RIGHTS</b> Limit or expand LGBTQ rights?	<b>Expand.</b> As county executive, <a href="#">appointed</a> the county’s first LGBTQ liaison to link the community to resources. <a href="#">Supported</a> same-sex marriage rights in Maryland. “Will <a href="#">continue</a> to stand up for” LGBTQ rights. “Will... oppose... efforts to <a href="#">undermine equality.</a> ” <a href="#">Opposes</a> anti-transgender legislation.	<b>Mixed.</b> <a href="#">Let</a> LGBTQ protections become law without his signature. <a href="#">Let</a> a ban on the anti-LGBTQ “ <a href="#">panic</a> ” defense become law without his signature. <a href="#">Signed a ban</a> on “gay conversion therapy” for minors. <a href="#">Opposed</a> a transgender rights law in 2014 while accepting the state’s same-sex marriage law.
<b>MARIJUANA</b> Ban or legal?	<b>Legal with limits.</b> “ <a href="#">What</a> adults choose to do ... is their business.” <a href="#">Has</a> concern about “impact on youth.” As county prosecutor, <a href="#">blamed</a> rising crime rates on decriminalized marijuana.	<b>Mixed.</b> Let a <a href="#">companion bill</a> to voter-approved legalization become law without his signature. In 2015 <a href="#">vetoed</a> decriminalization. In 2016 <a href="#">vetoed</a> decriminalization of possession of marijuana paraphernalia.
<b>MINIMUM WAGE</b> Raise the federal minimum from \$7.25/hour? If raise, how much?	<b>Yes.</b> <a href="#">Supports</a> increasing the minimum wage to \$15; “believes it should be done federally.” <a href="#">Would</a> index the minimum wage to inflation so it rises with the cost of living.	<b>Unclear.</b> No position found on the federal minimum wage. <a href="#">Vetoed</a> raising Maryland’s minimum wage to \$15; <a href="#">proposed</a> raising to \$12.10 per hour instead.
<b>STUDENT FINANCIAL AID</b> Support lowering interest on student loans and/or forgiving them?	<b>Yes.</b> <a href="#">Supports</a> Biden’s student loan forgiveness plan and “improving access to low interest student loans.” <a href="#">Would expand</a> Pell Grants to assist low-income students.	<b>No.</b> Biden’s plan is “a really <a href="#">bad</a> idea at the worst possible time.” Supported student loan <a href="#">tax credits</a> , <a href="#">scholarships</a> , and <a href="#">capping tuition growth</a> as other solutions.
<b>TAXES</b> Raise or lower taxes on corporations and wealthier individuals?	<b>Raise.</b> “ <a href="#">We need</a> leaders who [will] make big corporations pay their fair share.” <a href="#">Would raise</a> the corporate tax rate to create more equity and allow economic growth “that benefits more people in the middle.”	<b>Likely lower.</b> <a href="#">Supported</a> the 2017 Trump tax cuts, which included the <a href="#">largest</a> corporate cut in US history.
<b>VOTING RULES</b> Make voting harder or easier?	<b>Loosen.</b> <a href="#">Supports legislation</a> to enforce voting rights and expanding voting access.	<b>Mixed.</b> Let voting legislation become law without his signature, including expanded <a href="#">vote-by-mail</a> , expanded <a href="#">early voting</a> , and <a href="#">automatic</a> voter registration. <a href="#">Vetoed</a> voting rights for released felons.

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