

APPENDIX A - Declaration of Intent to Apply for House of Delegates District 5

**Republican Central Committee of Carroll County
Declaration of Intent to Apply for House of Delegates District 5**

I, Benjamin E Perricone, residing at [REDACTED] Westminster, MD 21157 _____
(Print or type name) (Address, City)

Hereby declare my application for House of Delegates District 5. It is my wish that the Carroll County Republican Central Committee (hereinafter "CCRCC") consider me as a candidate to fill the vacancy.

By signing this declaration, I certify that I meet all the constitutional eligibility requirements to serve as the Delegate for District 5. I acknowledge that the CCRCC will release my name as a declared candidate and my answers to the attached questions.

In addition, I acknowledge the CCRCC, its members, officers, and persons affiliated therewith will not be liable for any other damages incurred by myself or any other party as a result of my application for the House of Delegates District 5 vacancy.

 1-20-2015
Applicant's Signature Date

APPENDIX B - Applicant Questionnaire for District 5 Delegate Vacancy

PART I: COMMUNITY AND CIVIC INVOLVEMENT

Please list all community and civic organizations (e.g., community associations, political clubs, religious organizations, etc.) in which you are currently or have been involved during the last five years. List any offices held in such organizations and dates. Attach additional sheets if necessary.

I am a member of St Bartholomews Catholic Church in Manchester. I have not been involved in any organizations in the last 5 years. I do support and contribute to the Manchester fire Department thru their fund drives, and carnival, and the rec council groups that my nephew plays sports in.

PART II: PREVIOUS CAMPAIGNS AND PUBLIC OFFICES

Have you ever run for public office or held public office? (For each public office for which you have previously run, please state the office, date of campaign, political party, if any, and outcome of election; attach additional sheets if necessary).

I had previously run for Carroll County Commissioner as a Republican in 2002, and did not advance to the general election. That year there were 10 candidates running in the primary election.

I had served as the Chairman for the Manchester Planning & Zoning Commission, and I have also served as an Alternate on the Carroll County Board of Zoning Appeals.

If you have previously run for county and/or state elective office in Maryland, do you currently have a candidate committee and campaign account? (If yes, please state the approximate balance of your campaign account).

I currently do not have a candidate committee or a campaign account.

PART III: PROFESSIONAL AND POLITICAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

Please state your major professional and or personal accomplishments. Confine your response to 250 words or less.

My accomplishments have been as part of a good group of co-workers. In most professions, it is team work and cooperation with co-workers that get things done. I have had my share of individual accolades, and they have been possible because of the environment created by my employers that encouraged employees to reach out take chances, and try out new ideas. In my personal life, my greatest accomplishment has been marrying my wife. We have been thru good times and not so good times, and we have and continue to love each other more every day.

Please state your major political accomplishments. Confine your response to 250 words or less.

My major political accomplishment is that I am an involved attentive voter and taxpayer. I believe that "political accomplishments" should not be a resume builder for individuals,

but should almost be transparent to individual citizens, with the result being they keep more of their money, and government works more efficiently.

PART IV: DISTRICT 5 DELEGATE VACANCY

Please state why you wish to serve as the Maryland House of Delegates for District 5. Confine your response to 500 words or less.

The current state of affairs facing the citizens of Carroll County and Maryland requires fresh people, able to bring new ideas, fresh perspectives, and a commitment to the welfare and needs of the citizens. We need to end the "business as usual" attitude in Annapolis, which has hurt our businesses, cost the taxpayers millions of dollars, and continues to harm hard working Marylanders trying to provide for their families.

Voters made it very clear in the last election that it is time for a different direction, and I believe I represent that direction, bringing a conservative, responsible, approach with the underlying commitment to the fact that the taxpayer matters. The taxpayer is not an endless source of money, and the taxpayer MUST get the maximum effort out of EVERY tax dollar. That is the responsibility of the legislature, and must be the primary focus of our representatives.

I believe I am the best candidate to represent the citizens of Carroll County as I am a private sector taxpayer, as the private sector taxpayer ultimately pays for everything in government. As a private sector taxpayer, no one would have more drive and desire to ensure the Carroll County resident is getting the most efficient and best use of their tax money. Roads, schools, libraries, social programs, and every other government function can and should be run as efficiently as possible, using best practices that have been used in the private sector for years.

If appointed as the Maryland Delegate for District 5, do you intend to run for election to the office of Maryland House of Delegates for District 5 in 2018? ____ YES ____

PART V: PARTY AFFILIATION

Have you ever held a different party affiliation (e.g., if you were previously a Democrat or Independent, but are now a Republican, please state as such and provide details about when you changed your party affiliation)? _____

I have always been a registered Republican since I first registered to vote, never changing my party affiliation.

PART VI: BACKGROUND QUESTIONS

Please answer "yes" or "no" to each of the questions below. For any questions to which your answer is "yes", please provide details on a separate sheet.

- 1. Have you ever been charged with, arrested for, or convicted of any criminal offense excluding minor traffic violations?**
_____ **NO** _____
- 2. Have you ever had a professional or business license suspended or revoked?** **__NO__**
- 3. Have you ever been a defendant to a civil or administrative proceeding?** **__NO__**
- 4. Have you ever filed a petition for personal bankruptcy under Chapters 7, 11 or 13 of the United States Bankruptcy Code?** _____ **NO** _____
- 5. Do you have any outstanding judgments against you?** **__NO__**

PART VII: STANCE ON ISSUES

- 1. Please describe what you believe is the role of government. : the role of government is to ensure a common set of general rules for society, such as common currency so business can transact, building infrastructure such as highways and bridges that would be too cumbersome for an individual or require too many individuals to accomplish. Government would set rules and laws to ensure a basic quality of food, water, and waste disposal. Government also provides security for citizens thru a police force, and generally handles only items that would be necessary for the majority of citizens.**
- 2. Please explain your economic views and major economic influences: My basic economic view is that the US economy offers any and every US citizen the opportunity to succeed with very little interference or limitation from government. While that view is being chipped away at currently, the opportunities in this country are still the best in the world in my opinion. In this country, success is not a zero sum game. I believe everyone can succeed if they are willing to dedicate the time and effort, and no one has a limitation on what they can achieve. My major influence has been my parents, who taught my brothers and I the importance of self reliance, saving, and living within one's means.**

3. **What is your position on gun control and the Second Amendment:** The right for private citizens to bear arms is the foundation of a free society. An unarmed population are no longer citizens, they are subjects. The only gun control should be preventing criminals or those with mental health issues from owning or possessing firearms, for the safety of the general population. Nothing should prevent a law abiding, responsible citizen from owning or carrying a legally owned firearm and ammunition.
4. **What is your position on abortion and euthanasia:** As a Catholic, I firmly believe that abortion is totally wrong. There are too many couples unable to have children that would do literally anything to have a new life they can raise. We can and should help match up those babies with the couples that would give them the nurturing and love every baby deserves. As for euthanasia, I believe, suicide is not acceptable; there are too many caring people that can help difficult situations. If euthanasia to be used to end the suffering of a terminal disease, I understand the thought, and admittedly, I have never been in that situation, so I can't imagine the pain. Having said that, I am very leery and very uncomfortable with allowing a person to take their life or allow their life to be taken.
5. **What is your position on taxes:** Quite simply, Marylanders are taxed too much, and the taxes that are taken are being wasted, and not being used effectively at all. The best and most glaring example are toll bridges and roads. They were built and tolls were instituted to pay for the road and its upkeep. No one can tell me the millions of dollars collected at the bay bridge is not enough to keep that bridge in tip top shape. If that money is not enough, then I would suggest that the monies are not being spent in a responsible, effective way.
6. **What is your position on common core:** This is simply a poorly disguised attempt to further take over local education and put it under a federal control to more completely change our children's schooling from education to indoctrination.
7. **How would you work to create jobs:** If workers are allowed to keep more of their paycheck, thru reduced taxes, then they will have more money to spend and invest. This starts a cycle of economic improvement, as I have more money, I will spend more and save more, the spending more creates demand for more product, and saving more provides financial institutions with more money to lend to business start ups, and for expansion of existing businesses.
8. **Please explain your position on Obamacare and healthcare in general:** I believe the US has the best healthcare in the world. No one is refused care at any emergency room. The issue is not healthcare; it is who pays for healthcare. I believe that

Obamacare is simply a first step toward single payer government controlled healthcare. If the goal is to reduce healthcare and insurance costs, then there are many other steps that can be taken. As an example, allow health insurance to sell across state lines, such as auto insurance.

- 9. What is your stance on converting from a commissioner form of government to a county executive form of government: The commissioner form of government has served us well over the years. I believe a county executive form of government will only result in the complete balkanization of the county. Under the previous form of commissioners (at large), every commissioner had to be responsive to EVERY resident as everyone had a say in who would represent them. Currently, each resident only has a say in 25% of the representatives. Thus, as we have already seen, commissioners will gang up on each other to push thru an agenda, using the same tactics (go along to get along) that has plagued state government for years. In addition, county executive government will add yet another significant cost to government, with a 6 figure executive salary and pension costs, staffing increases with salary, benefits and pension costs, with NO return of any sort for the citizen.**