

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, James E. Rowe, residing at [REDACTED] Union Bridge, MD 21791

(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.

<u>James E. Rowe</u>	<u>February 17, 2015</u>
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.

- **St James Lutheran Church, Union Bridge; Union Bridge Area Heritage Committee, President; Town of Union Bridge Planning & Zoning Commission, 2008-2012; Maryland Nurses Association current, Past District President and Board Member; American Nurses Association current; Carroll Hospital Center Foundation member 20 years, still active ; Union Bridge Business Association, Past President and current**

member; Carroll County Chamber of Commerce, member since 2008; Chili Cook Off Judge for Junior Women's Club and Access Carroll, past several years; FFA/4H Fair Judge for Fruit and Vegetables for 5 years, current; Guest speaker at FSK High School FFA on importance of young people continuing to work our family farms; Member West Carroll Republican Club, since Nov 19, 2014 .

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).

- Republican write-in candidate, District 4 County Commissioner, filed July 2014, election Nov 2014, earned 29% of the vote (nearly 3,000 votes) as a write-in candidate in only 3 1/2 months.

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).

- Yes, have maintained campaign committee and Treasurer, current account balance exceeds \$2,000, all required campaign financial reports have been filed.

PART III: PROFESSIONAL AND POLITICAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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

- I have had an interesting and diverse career in healthcare and as a small business owner. After graduating from FSK High School in 1970, I worked my way up the nursing ladder, starting as a CNA, then attending LPN classes while working full time. After working ten years as an LPN, I attended evening classes to complete prerequisites to attend nursing school full time to complete my RN. I worked as a private nurse during the week, and at Baltimore County General Hospital on weekends, while in school. After earning my RN, I went to work for the state at Springfield Hospital Center. After two years at Springfield, I worked at a 310 bed nursing home in Baltimore City for 2 years, then I worked as an AIDS Educator for HERO. The state offered me the position of Regional Health Service Coordinator for Western Maryland covering Carroll, Frederick, Washington, Allegheny, and Garrett County, as Nurse Educator/Case Manager. I trained nurses in these five counties to assume the role of Case Manager for HIV/AIDs, then I organized support groups and care programs while continuing to teach nursing. I then opened a 16 bed assisted living home, Brookfield Manor Resident Care, in Keymar. After getting it off the ground, I resigned my position with the state, and ran Brookfield for 12 years. In 2002, I opened The Buttersburg Inn in Union Bridge, and sold Brookfield in 2005, while continuing to teach and practice nursing.

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

- I am very proud of my 2014 write-in campaign for District 4 County Commissioner. Write-in is the hardest way to run a campaign. In a short 3 1/2 months, I earned the write-in vote of nearly 3,000 district residents, raised more than \$10,000, assembled a large team of very active and committed volunteers, many whom had never before worked in a political campaign, held numerous campaign events, knocked on doors, wrote letters to the editor, and more. The funds raised were all small individual donations, and none were from large corporations or PAC's.

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.

- As a lifelong Carroll County resident, I want to help keep Carroll County the wonderful and unique place that it is. I have a vast background in public health and caring for the elderly. I also have experience as a small businesses owner, and as a small farmer, descended from a long line of family farmers in Carroll County. I am a strong advocate for our aging population, and have served on committees when asked, to be sure our seniors get what they need. I teach part time at Carroll Community College and Chesapeake College, training nurses and assisted living staff. As an active and informed citizen in our county and statewide, I have developed a good understanding of what people want and need. I am tired as a small business owner and homeowner of paying more and more in taxes each year, while getting less and less. I want to go to Annapolis and get things for Carroll County, for a change, instead of watching all our Carroll County tax dollars going to the larger counties and Baltimore City. I did not vote for the previous Governor in 2006 or 2010, because I strongly disagreed with the way he ran Baltimore City, and the way he raised our taxes over and over. I supported Larry Hogan because I feel he will help us get out of this burden that was pushed upon us . I have been behind Larry Hogan since he first started Change Maryland. I want to work in Annapolis for public school funding, and find out where all the lottery money and casino gambling money promised to fund them has gone. I believe in the Constitution for what it really means, equal rights for all . I want to work with the Carroll County delegation to bring us home some relief for a change.

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 been a Blue Dog Democrat most of my life and decided to become a Republican since I have not voted for a Democratic Governor for more than eight

years. I closely watched and supported Governor Hogan when he first started Change Maryland. I am tired of Annapolis taking, but not giving us small business owners anything but more taxes and fees .

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
1. Have you ever filed a petition for personal bankruptcy under Chapters 7, 11 or 13 of the United States Bankruptcy Code? NO
2. 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 provide us with public safety including fire protection and police, good public schools that educate our children to join the workforce after graduating with skills to meet the needs of our employers. I don't feel the role of government is to stick its nose in our personal lives, or tell us how to live. We need to be held accountable for our own actions.
2. Please explain your economic views and major economic influences
 - As a small business owner it is getting harder to stay in business, with all the fees and taxes we must pay. I want to hire more people but I must have the funds to pay them. I work several part time jobs to keep afloat and have a real problem with people who use the system. If someone is ill and needs a hand, I understand, but I do not believe in giving people a free ride. I believe we must build up our small towns to increase income and take the burden off the few. As owner of the Buttersburg in Union Bridge nearly 13 years, I see the town in decline. We lost our grocery store over 5 years ago, and last year we lost our only gas station. We are surrounded with empty stores. We need help bringing business to our towns, giving tax breaks to get them started. We need revenue but there is a waste in our State that must be cut and state agencies that need to be overhauled. As a Nurse, I deal with State agencies

that need to be cleaned out from the bottom to the top . We need everyone to work together on this from local to State.

3. What is your position on gun control and the Second Amendment

- I come from a family of hunters. I feel everyone should have the right to own a gun, as long as they are of sound mind and they have no criminal record. I do, however, feel that we need to keep our guns under lock and key for the safety of our small children in the home, and to prevent someone coming in and stealing them. As a small business owner, I feel if we want a gun to carry when going to the bank at night for deposits, then that should be our right.

4. What is your position on abortion and euthanasia

- As a nurse since 1971, I feel that abortion is something politicians should not be involved in, but they are. I believe that if a women's life is in jeopardy and nothing else can be done, an abortion may be considered. I have never believed in abortion as birth control, and believe that if we taught young people right there is no reason for an unwanted pregnancy in this day and age. But if a young girl or women finds themselves in that situation, adoption is also an option. I know many childless couples who were unable to have children, and who would love to adopt unwanted children. The adopting couple can pay for the prenatal care and delivery cost of the baby, not the taxpayer, and no money paid to anyone else.
- Regarding euthanasia, having worked in the past as a hospice nurse, I believe the Constitution again comes in to play that government should not stick its nose in a person's private life. If someone is terminally ill and suffering, they and their love ones must have the right to do what they want. I have watched and cared for many suffering patients during my long career in nursing, and have always felt such patients and their families should have the right to make their own decisions. As many of my dying patients used to say to me, we don't let our pets suffer, so then why should I suffer? However, as a nurse, I would not want to assist anyone in ending their life.

5. What is your position on taxes

- I feel our taxes in Maryland are out of site. As a small business owner, why am I paying over \$220 each quarter for a bay fee? While I believe we must clean up the bay, the bay is not just a Maryland problem, it starts up the east coast. Our real estate taxes are way too high. It is enough that we spend most of our lives paying a mortgage, but to then pay a real estate tax means you end up paying for your place twice. We must find new revenue, but not out of the pockets of taxpayers. Rather we need to build up our industrial base for some tax relief. I feel that our seniors should pay reduced taxes. I feel that most of the politicians in Annapolis don't understand how much we are struggling in our small towns and counties, and frankly don't care. I also feel that if you are on public assistance, you should not be getting a tax rebate at the end of the year, and we need to annually verify the need for public assistance in the first place, and look for ways out such as training which leads to a job in a workforce shortage area and takes families off the welfare rolls.

6. What is your position on common core
 - I am still doing my homework on Common Core . I have talked to some teachers and parents who love it, while others hate it. I think No Child Left Behind was bad enough, and they jumped the gun on Common Core as well. But the big problem I see is the funding that was tied to this program. CCPS needs the funding at this point. But I feel we should all continue to do our homework on Common Core, until we know that it is working for the students, parents, and teachers.
7. How would you work to create jobs
 - I think we need to look at real estate that is sitting empty around our state and find employers who would like to start a business, offering tax breaks and other incentives to bring them to our state. In our county, we have some commercial property that could be use for agricultural businesses such as large buildings that could house fish farms to raise tilapia and catfish in large indoor tanks, and hydroponics to grow food. This is being done in other states, why not here in Maryland? There must be grants from the US Department of Agriculture to help get such a program going. We have a large property outside of Union Bridge that would work well for this, a former factory. We need to manufacture things here again, now that the cost of making goods in China is rising rapidly, maybe we can restart manufacturing here again. We must not give up hope, because we can create jobs, and I am willing to work hard to make my ideas a reality.
8. Please explain your position on Obamacare and healthcare in general
 - No government program is perfect, however I know many who were uninsured or could not get insurance because of a pre-existing condition, who now have insurance at a cost they can afford. I purchased health insurance through the Affordable Care Act, because my insurance premium rose to \$1,400 a month. I now have better coverage at less than \$900 a month. But I still feel we can do better. I think single payer may be better, but I feel each state should run healthcare. But from personal experience, I can say we must improve our Maryland exchange. The process of signing up was a nightmare and took over two weeks to get help. I know some people are upset that everyone is forced to have insurance, but I believe in personal responsibility and I don't want to pay for people going to the emergency room or pain management clinic. As a delegate, I would investigate this further. We must have a good health care system and we are not there yet.
9. What is your stance on converting from a commissioner form of government to a county executive form of government
 - I think before changing our form of county government again, we must hit pause and see how the change from 3 at large commissioners to 5 by district is going. As a small business owner, I feel like we are currently in 5 separate counties. We are one county and need to act as one. I talk to my customers who are very unhappy with 5 districts with little in common. Taneytown, Union Bridge, and New Windsor were always together because we shared schools and were in close proximity. I am watching to see how Fredrick does with their change to charter government. Time will tell. Here we are still working out our 5 commissioner government.