

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

I, Benjamin D. Watson, residing at [REDACTED] Westminster, MD 21158
(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.

Benjamin D. Watson 2-20-15
Applicant's Signature Date

APPENDIX B - Applicant Questionnaire for District 5 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.

- Provisional Election Judge
- Maryland Association of Assessing Officers, Website Liaison, Member
- Chesapeake Human Resource Association
- Society for Human Resource Management (Towson University Chapter President)
- Carroll County Alliance for Support and Hope

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).

Not at this time.

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).

Not at this time.

PART III: PROFESSIONAL AND POLITICAL ACCOMPLISHMENTS

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

Bachelors of Science in Business Administration with a Concentration in Human Resource Management and Management from Towson University

Represent Maryland and Towson University in the Macy's Day Parade (2009)

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

I am currently a Real Property Assessor for SDAT, located in Carroll County. Completion of IAAO Course 101, Real Property Appraisal. I have been given a full view of the assessment cycle (Value notification, appeals, new construction, reassessment) to gain a knowledge of property taxes, the assessment process, and the burden all property owners face.

PART IV: DISTRICT 5 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.

To further the well-being of Carroll County and Maryland through a different generation of representation and viewpoints in the House of Delegates.

If appointed as the Maryland for District 5, do you intend to run for election to the office of Maryland 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)? _____ No change, always a registered Republican

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**
 - a. To protect the individuals rights and safety with as little interaction as possible.
- 2. Please explain your economic views and major economic influences**
 - a. A Free Market will regulate itself when free of intervention and a solid infrastructure is in place (Public works, internet, etc.)
 - b. Farming and small businesses make up a majority of Carroll County and have helped shape what I have become today. Diverse industries create diverse and educated employees which, in turn, creates wealthy and happy citizens.
- 3. What is your position on gun control and the Second Amendment**
 - a. Pro Second Amendment.
- 4. What is your position on abortion and euthanasia**
 - a. A woman should be allowed to make their own choices about their body and a safe environment should exist to do so without financial burden from those that do not agree.
 - b. Regarding euthanasia, if an individual decides to partake and a registered medical facility is willing to assist, a person should be able to decide for themselves if they want to go this route if there are no other sensible options available.
- 5. What is your position on taxes**
 - a. To be used efficiently and effectively for preserving the rights of individuals and the environment that has helped us become what we are today.
- 6. What is your position on common core**
 - a. From the very beginning, teachers are taught how to best teach our youth. Students should not be boiled down to a number or statistic. To do so, this can hold back the brightest for the sake of numbers. Teachers should have the choice with limited guidelines on how to make Maryland continue to have the best education system in the US.
- 7. How would you work to create jobs**
 - a. Provide financial incentives for all types of companies, especially small businesses, while focusing on having them locate in Carroll County and Maryland. In order to make our environment even more attractive for companies to move into the county, an infrastructure should be updated and maintained with either private companies created to run these processes or push more funds to government departments that can keep up properly with the work required.

8. Please explain your position on Obamacare and healthcare in general

- a. While created with good intentions, the Obamacare Act was hastily passed which did not allow for an adequate period of time for research on how to help individuals and a free market society, not tax individuals for not choosing to be involved. With the upcoming Supreme Court ruling, they could rule that Premium Subsidies be eliminated and cause it to be unaffordable and place undue hardship on those who it was intended to help.

9. What is your stance on converting from a commissioner form of government to a county executive form of government

- a. A single county executive form on local government would not work very well in Carroll County. Due to the widely diverse economic climates, large towns such as Westminster and Mt. Airy would have different needs and views on what is good for the county as opposed to the rest of our more rural areas. We must have equal representation for all areas of Carroll County.