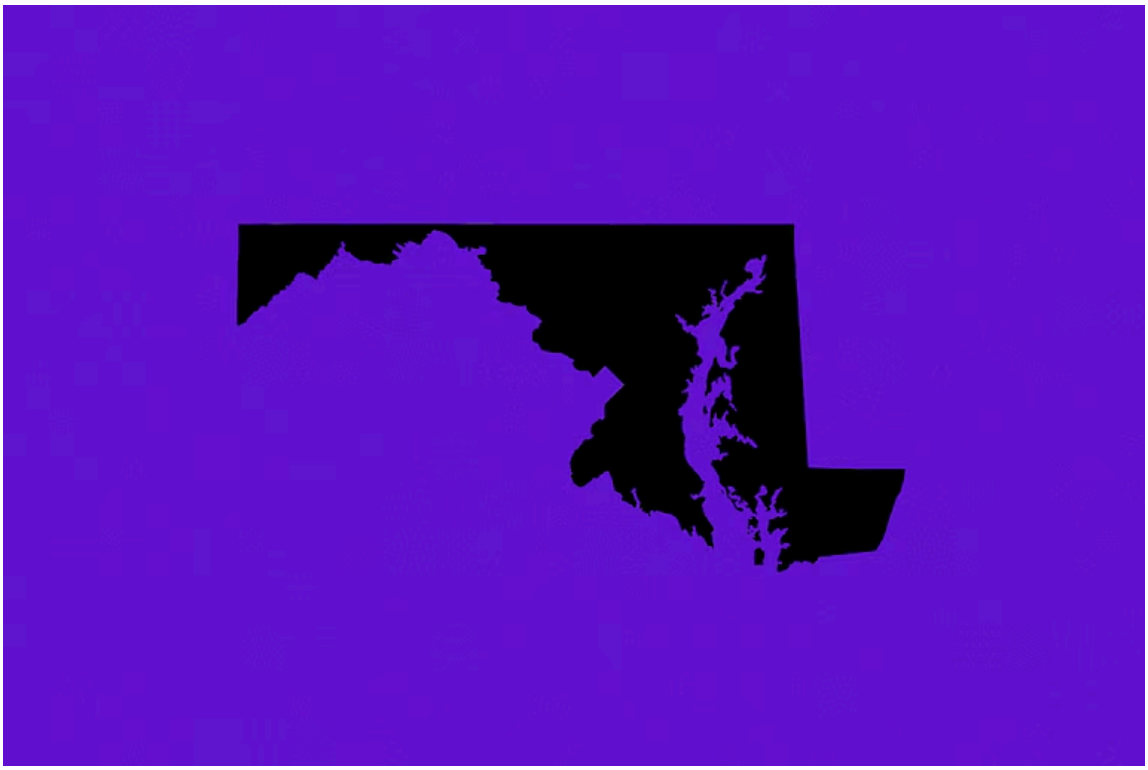
THE BANNER

Maryland Senate District 42

Banner Staff

5/18/2026 9:43 a.m. EDT



What's the job: One of 188 members of Maryland's General Assembly, split between the House of Delegates and the Senate. Responsible for introducing and voting on legislation, approving state spending and providing oversight of Maryland government operations. Elected to a four-year term.

Jump to a candidate

Candidates are listed in order of appearance on the ballot

Stephanie Popescu (D) | Kevin Ford (R)

Democratic

Name: Stephanie Popescu

Stephanie Popesecu. (Courtesy of Stephanie Popesecu)

Age: 35

Personal: Married, husband, Stefan, two sons.

Education: Bachelor's degree, education, Loyola University.

Experience: Public school teacher (13 years).

Questionnaire

Q: Maryland's state government is facing a structural deficit in future years. Please describe how you would approach closing the gap. Be specific about any spending cuts or revenue increases you propose.

A: I support the goals of the state's blueprint education plan, but we have to ensure these plans are connected to the reality of the state's finances. I would rather see a slower rollout than a financial crisis that results in deep K-12 cuts. But the state needs to be more responsible in spending by reducing growth across state agencies and improving government efficiency.

Q: What do you consider the three most pressing issues facing Maryland?

A: Lower cost of living, better schools, safe neighborhoods.

Q: What would you do to lower the cost of living for Maryland residents?

A: We have to address the growing housing crisis that is driving up prices and costs for businesses. The state must also work to bring down surging utility bills and build more local power plants to keep costs low in the long term.

Q: The cost of implementing the Blueprint for Maryland's Future education plan will exceed the money available in the Blueprint's fund over the next few years. Should the state raise new revenue for the programs, or should the programs be rolled back or adjusted?

A: We can fund our education goals without increasing tax burdens on struggling families. The state should be more responsible and accountable in how it spends our tax dollars, so that money is not wasted on programs that don't work. That's how we free up more money that can help meet the costs of the blueprint programs.

Q: Besides an election, how do you want constituents to review your job performance?

A: I want voters to demand measurable outcomes from all legislators, including me, for state programs.

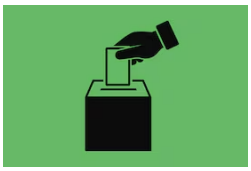
Republican

Name: Kevin Ford

Candidate did not respond to The Banner's voter guide questionnaire.

Show candidates who did not advance past June 2026 Primary

VOTER GUIDE 2026



Key Races

Statewide

US House

State S