

Brooke Lierman

Maryland **COMPTROLLER**



Brooke Lierman is an effective and passionate legislator, mother of two, and a disability & civil rights attorney. After spending five years as a member of the Appropriations Committee, she assumed a leadership role on the Environment & Transportation Committee in 2019. She also sits on the Joint Committee on Ending Homelessness, the Oversight Committee on Pensions, and founded and co-chairs the Maryland Transit Caucus.

Brooke has successfully passed landmark legislation to invest in and improve public transit; end suspension & expulsion of young students; fund evidence-based gun violence prevention programs; aid sex trafficking victims; close loopholes

in our family and paid leave laws and so much more. In 2019 she passed the nation's first statewide ban on styrofoam food & beverage containers and in 2020 she passed the HOME Act, banning housing discrimination based on source of income.

She is a champion at constituent work, advocates with state agencies on behalf of small businesses and organizations, and keeps connected to her communities and schools year-round.

During our concurrent health and economic crises created by COVID, Brooke has organized efforts around food relief and led the successful effort to bring World Central Kitchen (led by Chef Jose Andres) to Baltimore to feed thousands of Baltimoreans in need. As one community leader said, *"I always know Brooke has my back."*

Brooke is running for Comptroller to ensure that in a post-pandemic Maryland, the Comptroller is leading our efforts to uplift every family, community, and small business in Maryland, especially those who have been left behind. As Comptroller, Brooke will be a proactive champion for you, your family, your community, and your small businesses. Brooke's creativity and bold vision will advance a long-term agenda that addresses the systemic causes of disinvestment and racial inequity to cultivate a more financially resilient economy.

As the state's financial guardian, Brooke will establish and lead a culture of modernization, transparency and purpose

What is the Comptroller?

The Comptroller, one of three independent state-wide elected officials, is akin to an elected CFO for the State of Maryland and has a unique and effective bully pulpit for advocating on income-based issues. The office is responsible for tax collection and also for disbursing all payments to contractors or individuals owed money by the state. The Comptroller is one of three voting members on the Board of Public Works (*a body in charge of procurement for the state and that must approve nearly all services contracts and approve any capital expenditure over \$200k*) and sits on the State Employees Pension Board. The Comptroller's office also houses the Bureau of Revenue Estimates.

The comptroller has 12 field offices around the state that could be hubs for outreach and community involvement, bringing together community groups and non-profits and churches for financial literacy classes, housing counseling, small business 101, tax prep, and more.

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that leverages the full power of the Comptroller's office to unlock opportunity for every Maryland resident, family and business. Brooke will ensure that the data collected through tax filings is put to use for Marylanders: creating a new office of outcome analysis to ensure state programs are having their intended positive effect and to provide more transparency into the payment process for contractors.

As Comptroller, Brooke will work to:

- ✓ **Unlock Opportunity for Every Marylander:** Brooke will **modernize the Comptroller's office** and provide citizens with more transparent and accountable processes to understand how state funds are collected, spent and invested. She will promote policies and initiatives that close the racial wealth gap and increase upward mobility, while using the Comptroller's many field offices as hubs for resources in partnership with nonprofits to help working families and entrepreneurs thrive. Finally, Brooke will ensure our pension investments are made by managers who reflect the diversity of the state and our spending reflects Maryland's progressive values.
- ✓ **Unlock Opportunity for Maryland Businesses:** Brooke wants to **ensure that businesses start here and stay here.** She will work to ensure small and family-owned businesses can access the tools and capital they need to innovate and grow. She will push for investment in our workforce and public infrastructure, including education, transit, and broadband to ensure a capable workforce able to access jobs across the state.
- ✓ **Unlock Opportunity in Every Community:** Brooke understands **the importance of inclusive community development** and as Comptroller, she will encourage investment in the tools, systems and infrastructure that promote healthy, safe and well-educated communities, cultivate a strong workforce and reduce reliance on public services. Brooke will ensure the Comptroller's policies address long-standing, systemic disinvestment in communities of color to equalize access to opportunity and success.



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