



For Immediate Release
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New Group to Back Jealous for Governor

Campaign will organize grassroots and place ads in support of Jealous and opposing Hogan

BALTIMORE, Md. (February 1, 2018) - Today a collaboration of Maryland organizations and concerned citizens announced an independent expenditure campaign, [Maryland Together We Rise](#), advocating for the election of Ben Jealous for Governor.

The campaign will be under the direction of Sheila O'Connell and Marvin Randolph, seasoned political veterans with statewide and national experience.

"After one term of Larry Hogan, Maryland families are looking for new leadership," said Sheila O'Connell, President of *Maryland Together We Rise*. "Marylanders want jobs and economic opportunity across the entire state, and a leader who will take on the rising cost of healthcare and the fight for a livable wage. With experience as an executive and civil rights leader, Ben Jealous knows how to bring people together and solve problems."

O'Connell also noted that given the success of Democratic candidates across the country since the election of Donald Trump as President, *Maryland Together We Rise* is optimistic about the opportunity to defeat Larry Hogan as Governor. Furthermore, Democrats in Maryland currently have a 2:1 registration edge over Republicans in Maryland.

1199SEIU United Healthcare Workers East, Maryland's largest health care union, is an early supporter of the campaign.

"Try as he might to distance himself from Trump, Republican Larry Hogan can't hide from his own record right here at home," said Pat Lippold, Vice President for Political Action, 1199SEIU. "Marylanders are frustrated, and they will vote for new leadership this November. Ben Jealous is the leader we need to stand up to Trump and protect our families."

Maryland Together We Rise will be filing a statement of organization for campaign finance entities with the Maryland State Board of Elections this week.

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Maryland Together We Rise is a collaboration of Maryland organizations and concerned citizens in the state and across the country advocating for the election of Ben Jealous as the 2018 Governor of Maryland.