



## **2020 Candidate Survey on the Environment**

**Will Haskell Democrat  
Senate , 26**

**1) 100% Zero Carbon:**

**Do you support codifying this legislation?**

- Yes

**2) Environmental Justice:**

**Do you support the provisions that were contained in the Environmental Justice legislation?**

- Yes

**3) Municipal Funding Option :**

**Would you support legislation to allow, but not require, municipalities to establish a dedicated fund for local open space, farmland, water resources climate mitigation strategies through a limited conveyance fee on buyers of real estate?**

- Yes

**4) Bottle Bill :**

**Do you support modernizing Connecticut's bottle bill by 1) expanding the list of beverage containers accepted, 2) raising the deposit amount on covered containers, and 3) raising the handling fee paid to authorized dealers for each container they collect?**

- Yes

**5) Climate Change Education:**

**Do you support a requirement to teach climate change education in public schools?**

- Yes

**6) Transfer Act:**

**Do you support switching to a release-based cleanup program that would require sufficient DEEP oversight, mandated reporting of all cleanups and other safeguards to ensure a successful program that increases the number of sites cleaned?**

- Yes

**7) MDC Water:**

**Would you support legislation to require rates set by MDC to be approved by PURA (the state regulatory authority that sets rates for private water utilities)?**

- Yes

MDC should absolutely be subject to oversight from state regulators. In its current form, however, PURA has been less than fully effective in regulating electric utilities like Eversource. I would not only push for MDC to come under PURA jurisdiction, but also fight for a stronger, more responsive regulatory framework.

**8) Per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS):**

**Do you support advancing legislation that would prohibit PFAS chemicals wherever possible?**

- Yes

**9) Chlorpyrifos:**

**Will you support legislation to ban the sale and use of Chlorpyrifos in CT (as was the intent of House Bill 301 considered earlier this year)?**

- Yes

**10) No New Gas Infrastructure:**

**Will you oppose a tax on CT ratepayers to fund new gas pipelines?**

- Yes

**Open Question:**

**What environmental issues have you worked on? What will be your top environmental priority for the 2021 legislative session?**

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**Additional Comments:**

- Connecticut must invest in the future by fighting for and passing Green New Deal legislation. In 2019, I cosponsored House Bill 5002, Connecticut's Green New Deal, and I am determined to continue to push for this important legislation. Future legislation should also include a provision that bans offshore drilling for oil and gas in the Long Island Sound. This ecosystem is fragile and we must preserve the biodiversity that it fosters on the shore and below the surface of the water. We must work to crack down on these gas companies as well that are polluting Connecticut and harming individuals with dangerous gas leaks. A New Green Deal should increase taxes on these companies and implement substantial penalization for polluting through gas leaks. This will create monetary incentives for these companies to become more environmentally friendly. We also need to hold these companies accountable for their mistakes by decreasing the amount of gas necessary to leak before a company must pay to repair the tank from 3% to 1%. However, this cannot be the end all be all solution. This is why future legislation should also begin to phase out Connecticut's reliance on these companies for energy and fuel and invest in renewable sources. Therefore, we must provide incentives in this legislation to purchase more energy efficient vehicles like Tesla and push for their direct sale so this environmentally friendly company is more accessible.

Additionally, new legislation should push for working towards a carbon neutral Connecticut by 2060 or 2070. This gives Connecticut 20-30 years after converting to fully carbon-free electricity. Thus, Connecticut will have time to invest in even more energy efficient technologies that will balance the emissions big business creates in order to allow for net zero carbon emissions. Connecticut must therefore create ambitious goals for energy efficiency in years leading up to this transition. An updated Green New Deal should mandate 1GW of solar installations at least every 5 years.