



2020 Candidate Survey on the Environment

**Alex Kasser Democrat
Senate , 36**

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

8) Per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS):

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

- Yes

I introduced a bill to this effect and will continue to support this effort.

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

I co-sponsored this legislation and will continue to fight for it.

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?

- I've been an active environmental advocate for 15 years. Before becoming a Senator, I was a doctoral candidate in Environmental Policy

at Yale and was also Chair of the Children's Environmental Health Center at Mount Sinai Hospital in NYC. We built the first research lab dedicated to studying the effect of toxins on children's health. As a citizen advocate, I fought to restrict the use of flame retardants and other toxic chemicals and testified in Hartford many times.

As a State Senator, I've introduced bills to 1) establish carbon pricing, 2) reverse pesticide preemption so municipalities can restrict pesticides, 3) require that US cosmetic products adhere to EU safety standards, 4) prohibit PFOA, 5) require a State Water Plan, 6) expand the Green Bank to allow for more environmental infrastructure projects and 7) prohibit the purchase of toxic turf. I also sponsored other environmental bills and will continue to fight for a bold and sensible approach to sustainability. In 2021, I would like to see an omnibus bill that addresses multiple issues - including the priorities listed in this questionnaire, plus a reversal of pesticide preemption and a ban on styrene products. There is so much we can accomplish when we think collectively and act boldly. I remain committed to achieving as much as possible in a short time frame.

Additional Comments:

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