

2014 Candidate Survey



CONNECTICUT LEAGUE OF
CONSERVATION VOTERS

- BEFORE YOU COMPLETE THIS QUESTIONNAIRE, PLEASE SAVE IT TO YOUR COMPUTER AND USE THAT FILE TO RETURN TO US.
- Please complete this survey by August 1, 2014.
- Email your completed survey to: ctlcv@ctlcv.org

Candidate Name: Brandi Briggs

Running for: House Senate District No: 136th Party: Republican

Candidate/Campaign Mailing Address: P.O. Box 2, Westport, CT 06881

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Are you enrolled in the Citizen's Election Fund for public campaign financing? Yes No

Do you have a primary? Yes No

Are you an incumbent? Yes No

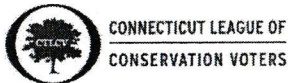
Part 1: If elected, what position do you expect to take on the following environmental issues?
Please mark boxes named "Support," "Uncertain," and "Oppose" with an x.

| Topic | Question | Support | Uncertain | Oppose |
|-----------------------|--|---------|-----------|--------|
| Parks | Would you support state park and forest revenues going to park and forest operations and maintenance rather than to the General Fund? | X | | |
| Comments: | | | | |
| Transportation | CT is one of the 10 states most dependent on federal funds as a percentage of their transportation expenditures. More than half of the states and localities have moved forward on increasing their funding share. Do you favor this and how might we do it in CT? | X | | |

| | | | |
|---|--|---|--|
| Comments: Improving transportation is of major importance in my district of Westport where many people commute and currently do not have reliable mass transit. Our state should seek as much federal funding as possible, and explore new options for funding within the state. We should protect the special transportation fund as well as reevaluate our spending priorities so we can maximize the impact of our tax dollars. | | | |
| Property Tax Reform | CT's property tax burdens small towns, strangles cities, undermines mass transit and drives sprawl. Would you be an advocate on behalf of the environment in the tax reform debate, especially with regards to property tax? | X | |
| Comments: | | | |

| <i>Topic</i> | <i>Question</i> | Support | Uncertain | Oppose |
|---|---|---------|-----------|--------|
| Pesticides | The American Academy of Pediatrics and many other science and medical institutions have warned that pesticides (including herbicides) are harmful to human and ecological health. CT has a ban on use of lawn care pesticides on grounds of elementary and middle schools. Would you support legislation to extend this ban to high schools and public parks where children play? | X | | |
| Comments: I am a strong supporter of eliminating pesticides, especially where children are present. | | | | |
| Pesticides | Should towns have more authority to limit or guide pesticide applications within their borders, including roadside spraying and applications of pesticides in wetlands and surface water? | X | | |
| Comments: | | | | |
| Water Source Protection | CT normally uses decades old data for setting standards and guidance for stormwater management. Would you support requiring the state to upgrade its standards using scientifically validated, up-to-date statistics on volumes of water associated with extreme storms and annual precipitation? | X | | |
| Comments: | | | | |
| Microbeads | Many personal care products such as shampoos and toothpaste are being manufactured using tiny plastic microbeads. Once microbeads are washed down the drain, they can enter lakes, rivers, and eventually the ocean through sewage overflows or pass through sewage treatment plants. Microbeads, like other plastics, can absorb toxic chemicals. They can be mistaken for food by aquatic life and can be passed up the food chain to larger fish, wildlife, and humans. Would you support legislation to protect our waterways from this new environmental threat? | X | | |
| Comments: | | | | |
| Conservation Lands | Would you support passing a state Constitutional Amendment to better protect state conservation lands from being given away for non-conservation purposes? | X | | |
| Comments: I support protecting our state conservation lands but would need to see the language of the proposed amendment. | | | | |

| | | | | |
|--|--|---|--|--|
| Energy | Would you support policies or legislation to protect and expand the state's cost-effective energy efficiency programs opposing any attempts to raid the CT Energy Efficiency Fund for state budgetary needs? | X | | |
| Comments: I strongly support protecting this Fund. | | | | |
| Energy | While other states promote shared net metering and sub metering for solar, fuel cell and other distributed renewable sources, CT imposes regulatory barriers that effectively prevent development of these projects in our state. Would you support legislation that removes these barriers and enable clean renewable distributed generation to move forward? | X | | |
| Comments: | | | | |
| Toxins | Would you support legislation that requires the Department of Public Health to identify chemicals of high concern to children, manufacturer disclosure of those chemicals and a process for recommendations to reduce exposure? | X | | |
| Comments: Protecting our children from harmful toxins such as the cadmium found in children's jewelry will be a top legislative priority of mine. | | | | |



Part 2: What environmental issue has lacked the attention in Connecticut that it deserves? As a legislator, what will you do to change that?

Transportation and its impact on the environment is a key issue that must be a priority in Connecticut. The congestion on I-95 creates greater pollution which impacts our air quality as well as the quality of our water including Long island Sound. Metro-North must be upgraded to promote use of mass transit. I will support legislation to upgrade and modernize our transportation infrastructure and promote new technologies that reduce pollution, protect our state's natural resources; and help Connecticut's transportation system become more efficient and economically sustainable.

Part 3: What are the environmental priorities in your district?

- Protecting the Long Island Sound**
- Transportation**
- Protecting our children from pesticides and toxins**
- Preserving open space**

Part 4: If you are elected, what would be your top environmental priorities for the 2014 legislative session?

Please identify up to three and rank the three in order 1, 2, or 3:

- Parks
- 1 Transportation
- Pesticides
- Water Source Protection
- Microbeads
- Conservation Lands
- Energy
- 3 Toxins
- Property Tax Reform
- 2 Other (please explain) **Protecting the Long Island Sound**

Comments:

As a mother of three children, I am deeply committed to protecting the environment, conserving our natural resources, and ensuring that Connecticut is a safe, healthy place to live for this and future generations. I believe Connecticut should be a leader among states in environmental protection and conservation efforts.

My district of Westport has been a leader in many of these areas. I will propose and support legislation to make sure we stay on that track and I will focus on the issues that Westport residents care about most. Environmental issues are a top legislative priority of mine.