



2020 Candidate Survey on the Environment

Christine Palm Democrat
House , 36

1) 100% Zero Carbon:

Do you support codifying this legislation?

- Yes

I'd like to see it done earlier, but 2040 is better than never!

2) Environmental Justice:

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

- Yes

I was proud to co-sponsor this bill with my colleague Rep. Reyes.

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

As a member of the ENV Committee, I wholeheartedly pushed for this, and fought its being watered down. If I had my way, municipalities would be required to do this, not merely allowed.

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

People's habits won't change (alas) unless they are forced to. As with the plastic bag tax, it took a .10 charge to make people stop being lazy.

5) Climate Change Education:

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

- Yes
Yes, of course! :) But your question is misleading. Only the House passed it. Onward with this fight next year and THANK YOU, CTLCV for your help last session and in the future.

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
I support this, but would like sometime to talk with Lori about it, as I need to get more up-to-speed on this issue, admittedly.

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
Highway robbery of an elemental essential.

8) Per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS):

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

- Yes
Was happy to co-sponsor.

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
Again, I co-sponsored.

10) No New Gas Infrastructure:

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

- Yes
No excuse for not transitioning faster to wind and solar.

Open Question:

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

- Top priorities will be pushing my climate change teaching bill through, and working on a better green economy. Given the universal appeal of the BLM movement, I'm working to broaden my colleagues' understanding of environmental issues as similarly being about justice throughout society, not just for districts like the one I represent. Honestly, your priorities are also mine.

Additional Comments:

- Being named Legislative Champion was one of the greatest honors of my life and I fully intend to earn this distinction again this year (if re-elected, of course).