



## 2020 Candidate Survey on the Environment

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House , 146

### 1) 100% Zero Carbon:

**Do you support codifying this legislation?**

- No

A lot of May instead of shall..makes a bill weak. I was preparing a climate change bill as well in 2020. I was basically going to work on amenities to some leadership bills to make our climate change legislation more efficient.

### 2) Environmental Justice:

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

- Yes

But like my colleagues in the environment committee, I wanted to make this bill stronger. Assessing is one thing but changing things is what is needed :)

Part of my district is directly affected as we have O&G, junk yards, rock crushing operations (Vitti) and BLT (I will talk about it below I, where the transfer act section is). I have complained officially many many times in the last 8 years to the DEEP and the EPA.. I have had agents come down to Stamford and the south end ..it is all on the record..

### 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?**

- Uncertain

I d have to read such bill. I am not in to dedicate finds for farmlands if it is going to involve animal agriculture. We clearly know the impact of this type of farming which is not only cruel but also contributes to the degradation of our Frontline of defense against the effects of climate

change, the marine eco system. Of course I would wholeheartedly support dedicated funds for water resources climate mitigation strategies. One of the pieces of legislative language I was working on was on storm water and coastal construction to be more adaptive and also the retro fitting of existing infrastructure.

**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

If this legislation were to pass (I have been pushing for this to be done through either special sessions) it is urgent .. my city is laying off people and our recycling center is open two days instead of 5 days a week!! This bill would enable our recycling facilities to actually make money rather than spend money..therefore also saving and protecting jobs that will be difficult to regain as we potentially plunge into the worst economic nightmare ever.

**5) Climate Change Education:**

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

- Yes

It has to be with the latest science..also needs to include a special section for the Oceans in its curriculum as the Oceans are our climate regulators. If the Oceans die, we die.. and there are already on the threshold of collapse. It also seems to me some schools teach it..but not sure what percentage. Am glad this will come again next year. I might work w Rep Palm to make sure there is some inclusion about the Oceans. It would help to bring in some precisions.

**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

One part of my district, the South End, is another "Love Canal" bit regarding soil and air quality, not water. I have been fighting the developer that removes toxic soil and piles it uncovered letting smells of coal tar float around the south end and shippan...two major parts of my district. Additionally the same developers basically put the toxic soil back into the ground and cap it by building above it ..which I find despicable. Again the same developer has shaved polystyrene blocks (EIFS) into our catch basins and into the sound..there is a nice picture of me in the wetlands and my shop vac (under approval of the deep) to suck and vacuum the fake soil of polystyrene in our precious marshes.

**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

Well hopefully PURA will serve the interests of the people of the state.

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

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

- Yes

PFAS are an abomination and are in our bodies already and everywhere around. It is time to stop producing those...so they need to be banned I. Many applications and products in our state. This calls for a broad and comprehensive bill.

**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 believe all these bills we are talking about throughout the questionnaire were cosponsored by me in 2019 and really did not get a chance to do much in 2020 except for the SB10 as I was working on amending the language. Cv

**10) No New Gas Infrastructure:**

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

- Yes

We have to move to renewable and at the same time the renewable energy developers have to make sure they do not harm the environment while developing these.

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

- I have worked on most if not all the issues mentioned in this questionnaire to different degrees. I am also working on some comprehensive bill to address the lack of enforcement of our environmental protection agency..giving NOV's to big corporations will never teach them better practices to not pollute or the least possible. I am working on a bill that would involve protecting our biodiversity on land and in the water , in particular the keystone and apex species and those endangered.

I will work on adaptative coastal construction and will push to mandate what was BMPs so we up our standards. We are out of time

Additionally I will be working on animal advocacy bills like the petshops being banned from selling dogs and cats .as they come from USDA registered factory farms with extremely low standards.. (puppy mills)

Of course I will work on other pieces of legislation for mental health support, election reform and much more. Am looking forward to next session. Hopefully we will get a second special session where we need to pass strong language regarding essential workers and undocumented immigrants as well as hopefully the bottle bill.

**Additional Comments:**

- It's Time To Clean Things Up ;)