2022 Candidate Survey on the Environment

Jan Hochadel  Democrat
Senate, 13

OPEN QUESTION
I am looking to require carbon-neutral schools in all new construction. I also want to see the tech schools (where I taught for many years) to prioritize green jobs and green construction. State buildings should be equipped with solar panels where possible. We need to move to electric school buses and provide funding to municipalities to purchase them. We also need to retrain people in the building trades for green energy construction.

1) ENVIRONMENTAL JUSTICE:
   - Yes
     The points made in the question are important.

2) WASTE MANAGEMENT:
   - Yes
     It is clear we need to reduce our waste and handle it more responsibly.

3) POLYSTYRENE:
   - Yes
     People were aware of the danger of Styrofoam decades ago. It is incredible we have still not eliminated its use.

4) PFAS:
   - Yes
     Given the dysfunction in Congress, Federal money will never be enough. CT should invest in making sure PFAS are banned within the state.

5) NEONICOTINOIDs:
   - Yes
     I was not familiar with this and would love more information.

6) RODENTICIDES:
7) DIESEL BACKUP GENERATORS/DATA CENTERS:
   - Yes
   We need to make sure that new industries have requirements for environmentally responsible policies. We have seen how hard it is to get corporations to change established behaviors.

8) BEARS:
   - yes
   Bear sightings in neighborhoods seem to be increasingly common. The answer is not to shoot the bears, but to discourage them from entering those neighborhoods through education and planning.

9) TREE CUTTING PROTOCOLS:
   - Yes

10) COMMUNITY SUSTAINABILITY:
    - Yes
    When I was going through cancer, hiking through Giuffrida Park with my dog was something I needed to sustain my body, mind, and soul. There are areas in the 13th district where the residents do not have access to parks, trails, and green spaces. We need to ensure all our residents have access to these places, not just those fortunate enough - and wealthy enough - to live near them.

11) RIPARIAN BUFFERS:
    - Yes
    I appreciate this question. I did not know the term, but the value of riparian buffers is clear.

12) RANKED CHOICE VOTING:
    - Uncertain
    I have never voted in a rank-choice election, and I would like to have some experience with it. I understand the concept, I know it is used in states throughout the country, and I understand its appeal. I would, however, want to look at the data on it. I would be interested in seeing if more moderate candidates gain an advantage, or if good candidates are left off people's ballots because they might defeat their preferred
candidate. I'm not against the idea, but I would like more information on how it affects voting patterns