



2024 Candidate Survey on the Environment

Anne Hughes, Democrat
House District 135

1) Open Question:

Legislation to meaningfully address the climate crisis (HB 5004 and SB11), reduce carbon emissions; maximize the IRA federal Direct Pay funding to invest in renewable energy projects across the state, including non-profits, schools, municipalities, serving on the Environmental Standards Commission for Offshore Wind procurement to ensure that offshore wind industry is being stood up with least environmental impact, robust funding of fisheries/wildlife mitigation fund by developers, and using least harmful implementation measures and oversight to ensure least disruption to migratory birds, marine life and marine ecosystems.

2) Climate:

Will you support paying for increased investments in clean energy and our electric grid infrastructure to ensure a healthy environment that will reduce reliance on fossil fuel and nuclear energy (and ultimately reduce costs to ratepayers)?

- Yes

You know me, at every rally, press conference, etc. screaming that this must be our NUMBER ONE priority as our planet boils!

3) Nature-Based Solutions:

Will you support a stand-alone bill that authorizes and prioritizes the use of nature-based solutions (forests, trees, wetlands, riparian buffers, healthy organic soils, and other natural ecosystems) as the preferred alternative, where appropriate, across all agencies?

- Yes

Have sponsored nature-based solutions, no till agricultural farming, soil restoration, riparian buffers and local food supply, farm to school meals legislation, as well as state investment in all of the above.

4) Clean Cars and Trucks Emissions Standards:

Do you support Connecticut's adoption of the latest California emissions standards for cars and trucks?

- Yes
I begged leadership and Governor for inclusion of these in Special Session

5) Environmental Rights Amendment:

Will you support an Environmental Rights Amendment to our State Constitution?

- Yes

6) Food Waste Diversion:

Will you support designating food scraps as a "recyclable" item and requiring large-scale food generators to create plans to donate edible food?

- Yes
We have successful Weston food composting, Sustainable Weston community food diversion program

7) Neonicotinoids:

Will you help push for legislation to ban the sale and use of neonics for non-agricultural use in Connecticut?

- Yes
Have tried to push these proposals for several sessions.

8) Rodenticides:

Will you support banning the use of certain rodenticides, with a few well-defined exceptions, to help prevent the deaths of its unintended victims?

- Yes
Proud co-sponsor of this

9) Environmental Justice:

Will you support a legislative fix to Connecticut's Environmental Justice statutes to include all polluting facilities?

- Yes
All polluters should have life-cycle responsibility and accountability and bear cost of such as well as clean up.

10) Bears:

Will you support legislation that requires humane responses to conflicts with wildlife such as providing better support for the public seeking help,

removing attractants, minimizing shooting incidents, and strengthening programs to deal with orphaned wildlife?

- Yes

11) Tree Cutting Protocols:

Will you support legislation to require stronger science-based tree cutting protocols based on conservation values?

- Yes
My district, Redding, is a fierce champion of stricter tree protocols due to clashes with Eversource

12) Ranked Choice Voting:

Should Connecticut pursue Ranked Choice Voting?

- Yes

CANDIDATE COMMITMENT TO WORK ON ENVIRONMENTAL LEGISLATION

If you support any or all of our top priority legislation during the 2025 session, will you add your name as a legislative co-sponsor?

- Yes
You know I will!

Will you plan to attend our annual Environmental Summit in January?

- Yes

If requested, will you meet with CTLCV at least once during the legislative session to review priority legislation?

- Yes