



2024 Candidate Survey on the Environment

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House District 17

1) Open Question:

I am a founding member of the Climate Caucus and will continue to be a member. I pushed, alongside champion Representative Palm, for the passage of HB5004 which I hope we bring back and strengthen next year.

PFAS remains one of my primary concerns, especially in relation to spills into the Farmington River and how we clean up those spills and potentially future spills. I advocated and was able to get schools included in the statute that determines where we use state funds to clean up because this is an issue in multiple towns. I will continue to push for us to remove PFAS from additional products.

I passed a bill in the House but not the Senate (two years in a row) for solar panels on condos. I plan on going back at the bill again.

Trash and composting are at the top of my list for the next session--it's a priority for me and more so for my constituents as I continue to hear from them about MIRA and how we are shipping our trash out of state. We knew this was coming and we didn't handle it appropriately.

As Chair of Planning and Development, I will be working on and actively seeking help passing the State Plan of Conservation and Development. I hope to work with all of our friends in the environmental community to make this a meaningful and productive plan moving forward.

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

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

4) Clean Cars and Trucks Emissions Standards:

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

- Yes

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
Number one priority!

7) Neonicotinoids:

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

- Yes
Have been supportive the last four years

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
Have been supportive the last four years

9) Environmental Justice:

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

- Yes

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

12) Ranked Choice Voting:

Should Connecticut pursue Ranked Choice Voting?

- Yes

Pursue yes with the beginning of it being the working group that is working on it right now; whether or not we end up with it will be interesting. I am supportive of the concept in general.

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

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