



2024 Candidate Survey on the Environment

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House District 132

1) Open Question:

I requested from leadership to be transferred to the Environment Committee for the 2024 legislative session. My primary motivation for that move was to be a passionate voice to adopting the CA Clean Air Standards and aggressively moving away from combustion engine vehicles and towards electric vehicles. You can imagine (and likely shared in) my heartbreak when that was struck from the committee's agenda nearly before the session began. I have been a strong and vocal supporter for efforts like that as well as TCI. I believe now with the weakened EPA more will fall on the states and thinking collaboratively and creatively about how we can create and leverage our collective market power by creating more multi-state compacts will be an essential piece of how we meaningfully curtail climate change.

I look forward to aggressively tackling PFAS, neonics, and other dangerous chemicals in our food/goods/environment. We absolutely must meaningfully address our solid waste disaster with greater focus on separating food waste and getting it out of the stream and also greater producer responsibility regulations.

I look forward to championing the Constitutional Amendment regarding Environmental Rights.

There are so many more critical efforts that we must continue such as the expansion of renewable energy generation and particularly wind; ensuring we are protecting our water resources and combating overuse; responsible tree and vegetation management; and thinking critically about our electric grid and how we make it more sustainable and resilient and not destructive to our environment or communities along the way. I will specifically note that HB-5004 was a meaningful piece of legislation that I co-sponsored and voted in favor of. It was gutting that it did not pass the Senate. I hope that next legislative session we actually will pursue policy even more impactful than 5004 was.

This past session, I co-sponsored and voted in support of policies to address nearly all of these issues and far too few came to a vote on the floor

and even fewer passed both chambers. All of these issues and more are desperate for our immediate attention and action and should I be fortunate enough to return to the general assembly, I look forward to committing myself to them.

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

7) Neonicotinoids:

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

- Yes

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

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

I have worked tirelessly with DOT to improve our vegetation management policies and also their impact on noise pollution. I am deeply committed to improving our state's policy on vegetation management.

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

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