

2014 Candidate Survey



- BEFORE YOU COMPLETE THIS QUESTIONNAIRE, PLEASE SAVE IT TO YOUR COMPUTER AND USE THAT FILE TO RETURN TO US.
- Please complete this survey by August 1, 2014.
- Email your completed survey to: ctlcv@ctlcv.org

Candidate Name: <u>James Maroney</u>		
Running for: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> House <input type="checkbox"/> Senate	District No: <u>119</u>	Party: <u>Democrat</u>
Candidate/Campaign Mailing Address: <u>22 Saranac Road, Milford, CT 06461</u>		
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Are you enrolled in the Citizen's Election Fund for public campaign financing? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		
Do you have a primary? Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input checked="" type="checkbox"/>		
Are you an incumbent? Yes <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>		

Part 1: If elected, what position do you expect to take on the following environmental issues?

Please mark boxes named "Support," "Uncertain," and "Oppose" with an x.

Topic	Question	Support	Uncertain	Oppose
Parks	Would you support state park and forest revenues going to park and forest operations and maintenance rather than to the General Fund?	X		
Comments:				
Transportation	CT is one of the 10 states most dependent on federal funds as a percentage of their transportation expenditures. More than half of the states and localities have moved forward on increasing their funding share. Do you favor this and how might we do it in CT?	X		

Comments:			
Property Tax Reform	CT's property tax burdens small towns, strangles cities, undermines mass transit and drives sprawl. Would you be an advocate on behalf of the environment in the tax reform debate, especially with regards to property tax?	x	
Comments:			

<i>Topic</i>	<i>Question</i>	Support	Uncertain	Oppose
Pesticides	The American Academy of Pediatrics and many other science and medical institutions have warned that pesticides (including herbicides) are harmful to human and ecological health. CT has a ban on use of lawn care pesticides on grounds of elementary and middle schools. Would you support legislation to extend this ban to high schools and public parks where children play?		x	
Comments: While I am supportive of the concept, I would need to see the specific legislative language before giving my full support. My concern would be to review potential unintended consequences of well-intended legislation.				
Pesticides	Should towns have more authority to limit or guide pesticide applications within their borders, including roadside spraying and applications of pesticides in wetlands and surface water?	x		
Comments:				
Water Source Protection	CT normally uses decades old data for setting standards and guidance for stormwater management. Would you support requiring the state to upgrade its standards using scientifically validated, up-to-date statistics on volumes of water associated with extreme storms and annual precipitation?	x		
Comments:				
Microbeads	Many personal care products such as shampoos and toothpaste are being manufactured using tiny plastic microbeads. Once microbeads are washed down the drain, they can enter lakes, rivers, and eventually the ocean through sewage overflows or pass through sewage treatment plants. Microbeads, like other plastics, can absorb toxic chemicals. They can be mistaken for food by aquatic life and can be passed up the food chain to larger fish, wildlife, and humans. Would you support legislation to protect our waterways from this new environmental threat?	x		
Comments:				
Conservation Lands	Would you support passing a state Constitutional Amendment to better protect state conservation lands from being given away for non-conservation purposes?	x		
Comments:				

Energy	Would you support policies or legislation to protect and expand the state's cost-effective energy efficiency programs opposing any attempts to raid the CT Energy Efficiency Fund for state budgetary needs?	x		
Comments:				
Energy	While other states promote shared net metering and sub metering for solar, fuel cell and other distributed renewable sources, CT imposes regulatory barriers that effectively prevent development of these projects in our state. Would you support legislation that removes these barriers and enable clean renewable distributed generation to move forward?	x		
Comments:				
Toxins	Would you support legislation that requires the Department of Public Health to identify chemicals of high concern to children, manufacturer disclosure of those chemicals and a process for recommendations to reduce exposure?		x	
Comments:				
While I am supportive of the concept, I would need to see the specific legislative language before giving my full support. My concern would be to review potential unintended consequences of well-intended legislation.				



Part 2: What environmental issue has lacked the attention in Connecticut that it deserves? As a legislator, what will you do to change that?

Currently many of our older cities still have sewage systems that combine stormwater runoff with sanitary sewers. At times of high rainfall, that can lead to raw sewage leaking in to our rivers and Long Island Sound, which in turn results in declining water quality among other problems. I believe we need to champion creative methods of updating our outdated sewer infrastructure, such as Environmental Impact Bonds.

Part 3: What are the environmental priorities in your district?

As a coastline district, the preservation of Long Island sound is a priority. Contamination in the streams and rivers that feed in to Long Island Sound has had a detrimental impact on the shell fish industry and other marine life. Further, predicted sea level rise is a major concern as many people live along Milford's 17 miles of coastline.

Part 4: If you are elected, what would be your top environmental priorities for the 2014 legislative session? Please identify up to three and rank the three in order 1, 2, or 3:

____ Parks

- 1 Transportation
- Pesticides
- 3 Water Source Protection
- Microbeads
- Conservation Lands
- 2 Energy
- Toxins
- Property Tax Reform
- Other (please explain)

Comments:

A recent report showing that greenhouse gases increased by more between 2012 and 2013 than in any other year since 1984 accentuates the importance of improving mass transportation and developing more clean energy, as one of the sources of this increase has been identified as the burning of fossil fuels. While in the past we have waited for the federal government to act, due to the inefficiencies of the federal government and the lack of funding being released by them, we will need to learn to rely on our own funding sources. We will need to continue to locate improved methods of building projects, such as the 2012 Design-Build Bid, which keeps us eligible for increased federal funding that would become available, all while balancing the needs of our state-led projects.