



2020 Candidate Survey on the Environment

PAUL HONIG Democrat
House , 76

1) 100% Zero Carbon:

Do you support codifying this legislation?

- Yes

2) Environmental Justice:

Do you support the provisions that were contained in the Environmental Justice legislation?

- Yes

3) Municipal Funding Option :

Would you support legislation to allow, but not require, municipalities to establish a dedicated fund for local open space, farmland, water resources climate mitigation strategies through a limited conveyance fee on buyers of real estate?

- Yes

4) Bottle Bill :

Do you support modernizing Connecticut's bottle bill by 1) expanding the list of beverage containers accepted, 2) raising the deposit amount on covered containers, and 3) raising the handling fee paid to authorized dealers for each container they collect?

- Yes

5) Climate Change Education:

Do you support a requirement to teach climate change education in public schools?

- Yes

6) Transfer Act:

Do you support switching to a release-based cleanup program that would require sufficient DEEP oversight, mandated reporting of all cleanups and other safeguards to ensure a successful program that increases the number of sites cleaned?

- Yes

7) MDC Water:

Would you support legislation to require rates set by MDC to be approved by PURA (the state regulatory authority that sets rates for private water utilities)?

- Yes

8) Per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS):

Do you support advancing legislation that would prohibit PFAS chemicals wherever possible?

- Yes

9) Chlorpyrifos:

Will you support legislation to ban the sale and use of Chlorpyrifos in CT (as was the intent of House Bill 301 considered earlier this year)?

- Yes

10) No New Gas Infrastructure:

Will you oppose a tax on CT ratepayers to fund new gas pipelines?

- Yes

Open Question:

What environmental issues have you worked on? What will be your top environmental priority for the 2021 legislative session?

- I have long been a proponent and promoter of sustainable future friendly buildings. In 2012 my wife and I built the first certified Passive

House in the state of CT. Our net-zero carbon emissions house won the CT Zero Energy Challenge with a HERS rating of -13 and received coverage on two local TV stations and numerous newspapers including a front page article in the Hartford Courant. You can read our blog with over 75,000 page views by searching for Our Connecticut Passive House.

I'm particularly interested in the idea of additional offshore wind for the state. When we built our house, we made a modest upfront investment and got paid back in 3 ways: we saved a ton of money on energy (the present value of our savings was more than 3 times the money we paid upfront), we have a home that's comfortable year round (warm in the winter, cool in the summer), and we did something good for the environment. I think the same thing applies to windpower where we'll get paid back in 3 ways for our upfront investment: savings in the cost of electricity, new green jobs, and less pollution.

Additional Comments:

- I'm running against John Piscopo who received your lowest score of any legislator in the GA on the 2019 scorecard.