



2020 Candidate Survey on the Environment

William Petit Jr Republican
House , 22

1) 100% Zero Carbon:

Do you support codifying this legislation?

- Uncertain
Federal legislation in this area is pending and this timeline might be too aggressive especially in light of the economic impact of the pandemic on businesses.

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
Critical issue and best left in local hands as much as possible

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
long overdue

5) Climate Change Education:

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

- Uncertain
I believe it should be taught but most BOE's and Superintendents chafe at us imposing yet another requirement. They are the experts and we should let them do their jobs

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
MDC needs serious overhaul and oversight

8) Per-and polyfluoroalkyl substances (PFAS):

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

- Yes
Complex issue especially with water supply. Hope we can get Federal legislation to get as much as possible out of the supply chain/

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)?

- Uncertain
The science seems unclear to me. I was presented data that supported the bill and other data that dis not. I am happy to review in 2021 if it is again raised

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?

- In public health we spent a lot of time on the PFAS issue and I would put that at the top of the list. I am also a big proponent of saving open space when possible and as noted above we need to fix the bottle bill-the history reveals politics at its worst.

Additional Comments:

- Thank you for your advocacy