

# CTLCV Candidate Survey

Please complete this survey by July 30, 2016.



First Name: \*

Angela

Last Name: \*

Capinera

Running For: \*

House

Senate

**District Number: \***

122

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**Party: \***

Democrat

Republican

Working Families

Other : Green

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Do you have a primary?

Yes

No

The issues described below are ongoing and likely to be on the legislative agenda for consideration in 2017. If elected, what position do you expect to take on the following environmental issues?

1. CONSTITUTIONAL AMENDMENT- To place a constitutional amendment measure on the ballot in 2018, the General Assembly must pass a joint resolution for a second time in the 2017-2018 legislative session. Senate Joint Resolution 36/Resolution Act 16-1 was passed by both chambers in 2016. Would you support passing a state Constitutional Amendment to better protect state conservation lands from being sold, swapped or given away without a public hearing and a 2/3rds vote by the General Assembly?

Yes

No

Uncertain

Question 1 Comments:

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2. PROTECTION OF CLASS I AND II LANDS- Connecticut has set the highest standard for drinking-water quality in the nation. Maintaining our high water quality relies on the protection of the recharge lands for reservoirs and wellfields, known as Class I and II lands. With increasing frequency, projects and legislation are proposed that would compromise protections for Class I and II lands, such as the legislative effort this year to allow rock mining in 100 acres of Class I and II land in New Britain. Would you oppose legislation that undermines traditional drinking water protections?

- Yes
- No
- Uncertain

Question 2 Comments:

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3. WATER DATA FREEDOM OF INFORMATION- In 2002-2003, water utilities pushed through three security laws that require officials to redact (black out or delete) large quantities of information in documents, such as water supply plans. Basic data needed for comprehensive, statewide water planning mandated in 2014 (PA 14-163) is now being redacted from water utility records. During the 2016 session, state agencies (DPH, DPUC, DAS, DEEP) and the Governor's office attempted (unsuccessfully) to persuade water companies to cooperate in state water planning by releasing more data. Would you support legislation to allow these state agencies to make water utility data publicly available for planning purposes?

- Yes
- No
- Uncertain

### Question 3 Comments:

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4. WATER SUPPLY REGULATION- Privatization of public water for private bottling and sale is happening in communities across the country. In 2015-2016, citizens' groups protested the unilateral decision of a CT regional water utility to sell a huge volume of water to a single new customer (a water bottling company). The volume—1.8 million gallons per day—was approximately equal to total residential water use in the service area. The new customer was given a specially created discount to encourage large water purchases, while at the same time rates for households were increased, and no provision was made for prioritizing supply in droughts.

This question has two parts:

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a. Would you support a permit requirement on new, supersized water diversions, for all new and existing customers asking for an additional 500,000 gallons per day above current use?

- Yes
- No
- Uncertain

b. Would you be in favor of regulating sales of our public drinking water supply to private for-profit water bottling companies?

- Yes
- No
- Uncertain

#### Question 4 Comments:

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5. REGIONAL GREENHOUSE GAS INITIATIVE- Connecticut receives revenues from auctions for emissions credits conducted by the nine-state Regional Greenhouse Gas Initiative (RGGI). Under Connecticut statutes, these funds are dedicated to energy efficiency programs which help thousands of residents and businesses, and to the Green Bank, which leverages these funds to attract far more in private funding to finance renewable energy installations. Both programs create thousands of Connecticut jobs. Would you oppose any diversion of RGGI funds away from energy efficiency programs and the Green Bank?

- Yes
- No
- Uncertain

#### Question 5 Comments:

6. CLIMATE CHANGE- The 2008 Global Warming Solutions Act (P.A. 08-98) mandates an 80% reduction in CT's greenhouse gas emissions below 2001 levels by the year 2050. The Governor's Council on Climate Change has been charged with developing strategies and interim targets to achieve that goal (Executive Order 46) and will issue a plan by the end of 2016. Would you support the adoption of new interim targets that will ensure CT is on a path to achieve the mandated 2050 emissions reduction goal?

- Yes
- No
- Uncertain

Question 6 Comments:

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7. PROJECT GREEN SPACE- Municipalities struggle to find adequate funding for open space acquisition and stewardship. Would you support enabling legislation that would allow municipalities to establish, if they choose to do so, a limited conveyance fee on transfers of real estate to provide dedicated local funding for land conservation, including farmland, forests and open space, and to fund land stewardship efforts, including in urban communities/public lands?

- Yes
- No
- Uncertain

Question 7 Comments:

8. PLASTIC BAG POLLUTION- Plastic pollution is a global environmental problem. Westport, CT and other communities across the country have begun to address this issue by implementing bans on single-use plastic bags, citing their contribution to clogged waterways, damage to marine life, and toxic pollution. Would you support a statewide ban on plastic bags similar to the successful ban in Westport?

- Yes
- No
- Uncertain

Question 8 Comments:

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9. TIRE RECYCLING- The value of scrap tire is declining and many post-consumer uses are going away. This is a recipe for illegal dumping which puts a financial burden on municipalities and can develop into a public health concern (tires are a breeding ground for mosquitos). Would you support full Expanded Producer Responsibility for tires--that involves producers and advocates--in designing the take-back program?

- Yes
- No
- Uncertain

Question 9 Comments:

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10. SOLAR ENERGY- Residential solar energy is rapidly expanding, and is an important source of clean energy and jobs. But CT's residential solar market is limited due to the high percentage (about 80%) of renters and homes shaded by trees. Other states have successful "shared solar" programs that enable people who cannot install rooftop solar panels to purchase a portion of electricity produced by a larger solar installation. Would you support legislation expanding CT's insufficient shared solar pilot to a full-scale, statewide program that allows all CT residents to access clean energy?

- Yes
- No
- Uncertain

Question 10 Comments:

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## 11. What environmental concerns are you most passionate about?

People tell me I'm passionate about everything when it comes to the environment: pollution, recycling, etc.

I want the bottle bill expanded to include all sport drinks, iced tea, flavored water, juice, etc. containers, including all plastic, glass, and aluminum containers that are sold individually and are not necessary for day-to-day nutrition and health intake. I believe Connecticut can follow the lead of Maine and Hawaii and accomplish this. This will add jobs and help reduce waste and help promote recycling.

I'm also passionate about the preservation of tidal marshes in the state. I volunteer my time each spring to give tours to local 4th grade students and their parents about the local salt tidal marsh here in Stratford, CT. The majority do not know and understand their significance and the huge impact it will have, on both humans and the natural world, if all of the tidal marshes are lost.

Another main passion is trees. Connecticut needs more trees, lots more. They will help reduce pollution, cool down population centers, promote property values, and just give the State a better appearance overall. There should be one tree planted for every citizen in each municipality. When a baby is born, a tree should be planted for them. Each school-aged child should be given a tree to plant.

Along with this, preservation and expansion of parks, recreation areas, and open space. Open space should not be behind fences. Bridgeport and Stratford both contain the largest urban forest in the country, known as Remington Woods. All of Remington Woods, all 422 acres of it, is behind an 8 foot barbed wire fence. It is privately owned by Dupont and the elected officials in both Bridgeport and Stratford want to clear cut it and build on it instead of creating a recreational area for its citizens that is desperately needed. There has been a huge media blackout on this. I always tell people: one acre of trees equals 10,000 gallons of pollution out of the air. Now do the math: 422 times 10,000 equals how many more gallons of pollution in the area?

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12. What are the environmental priorities in your district? Do any require a state legislative solution? If elected/re-elected, what will you do to address these issues in 2017?

Remington Woods. I would like to see both Stratford and Bridgeport receive money from the State to purchase the 422 acres and to create a recreational area for their citizens.

Expand the bottle bill.

Conserve open space.

Plant trees.

Save wetlands and marshes.

I will create bills and I will stand up and fight for them as I have been doing all along.

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**DO NOT LEAVE THIS FORM UNTIL YOU HAVE HIT THE "SUBMIT" BUTTON.** If you have any questions or would like to submit additional information regarding your environmental record or positions, please email us at [ctlcquestionnaire@gmail.com](mailto:ctlcquestionnaire@gmail.com) or call our office at 860-236-5442. Thank you!



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