

2014 Candidate Survey



CONNECTICUT LEAGUE OF
CONSERVATION VOTERS

- 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: ctlcvt@ctlcvt.org

Candidate Name: Andrew Fleischmann

Running for: House Senate District No: 18 Party: Democratic

Candidate/Campaign Mailing Address: 127 South Highland #2, West Hartford, CT 06119

Phone: 860.338.3795 Website: _____ Email: afleischmann2014@gmail.com

Are you enrolled in the Citizen's Election Fund for public campaign financing? Yes No _____

Do you have a primary? Yes _____ No

Are you an incumbent? Yes No _____

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: Our state should not be afraid to increase taxes on gas, oil, and other fossil fuels – and then make sure that the revenues go toward transportation – not only infrastructure repair & improvement, but also mass transit. | | | | |
| 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: I have been working hard to extend our existing ban, and will continue to! | | | | |
| 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: I find it outrageous that water-soluble pesticides – which have been shown to have extremely harmful effects on both people and wildlife – are being used in this way. | | | | |
| 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: Unfortunately, I believe that the Haddam land-swap legislation a few years back demonstrated that Constitutional protections are needed. | | | | |

| | | | | |
|------------------|--|---|--|--|
| 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: | | | | |



Part 2: What environmental issue has lacked the attention in Connecticut that it deserves? As a legislator, what will you do to change that? *For the past four years now, I have introduced legislation to expand the pesticide ban currently in place for elementary and middle schools – only to see the Environment or P&D Committees (or both) push legislation to eliminate our existing ban. I will continue to fight for an expanded ban on pesticides in any & all areas where children and pets are in danger of high exposure.*

Part 3: What are the environmental priorities in your district?
I believe that they are conservation, increased use of renewable energy resources, protection of open space, and increased protections against toxins in our air, water, soil, and consumer products.

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
- ___ Transportation
- 1 Pesticides
- ___ Water Source Protection
- ___ Microbeads
- ___

Conservation Lands
3 Energy
2 Toxins
Property Tax Reform
____ Other (please explain)

Comments:

It has been a pleasure to work with the CT League of Conservation Voters on so many of the issues outlined in this questionnaire – particularly reducing the use of pesticides, the presence of toxins in our consumer products, and energy policies to reduce greenhouse effects and pollution and increase sustainability.

It is my hope that, if reelected, I will be able to continue working in partnership with you on these key issues. Thank you for your consideration!

PS I was away on vacation on August 1, and hope that you will still consider me for endorsement. I believe that I have scored 100% on your scorecard more times than anyone in the General Assembly, and would be honored to be endorsed. Thank you.