

2018 Candidate Survey on the Environment Laura Devlin (Republican)

House District 134

1) 100% Clean Energy by 2050:
Do you support transitioning to 100% clean energy by 2050 or sooner?

Yes

2) State Water Plan:

Will you support the plan as submitted to the legislature and affirm that water is a public trust?

Yes

3) Municipal Funding Pilot for Open Space:

Would you support legislation that would allow, but not require, certain municipalities to establish a dedicated fund to protect local open space, farmland and water resources through a limited conveyance fee on buyers of real estate?

Yes

I am open to the idea of providing the choice to municipalities - but real estate conveyance shouldn't be the only option considered. In the town of Fairfield, a combination of town funding and private donors created a fund managed by our Open Space Commission to acquire lands - those types of creative approaches should be encouraged. Our real estate market is severely depressed - at least in Fairfield County. So while other parts of the state may find conveyance acceptable, here it would be an added burden.

4) Plastic Bag Pollution:

Would you support a statewide ban on single-use plastic bags (or a ban/fee hybrid) to significantly reduce plastic bag pollution in our state?

Yes

I agree that plastic pollution is a growing and important issue. I think action should be taken to significantly reduce or stop use of many plastic items beyond bags. That said, I prefer a phased in approach based on incentivizing vs. an outright ban on use. I am happy to support efforts to reduce all plastic solution in our state.

5) Gas Pipeline:

Will you support the repeal of the pipeline tax established in 2015?

Yes

6) Carbon Pricing:

Would you support carbon pricing for Connecticut?

Yes

I support this, but encourage we consider a regional perspective to ensure our state is not put in a competitive disadvantage vs. surrounding states.

7) Additional Comments:

I am proud to be an advocate for our environment and would like to offer my thanks to the CT League of Conservation Voters for your dedication and efforts to protect and preserve our natural resources. In my time in Hartford, I have come to value the information you provide to assist in my decision making and your willingness to meet and discuss important issues before the legislature. Thank you!