



## 2018 Candidate Survey on the Environment

### Jason Doucette (Democrat)

House District 13

**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?**

Uncertain

I strongly support the concept and the fund, however I do have concerns about a buyers conveyance fee. As an active real estate attorney conducting real estate closings every day here in Connecticut, I know first hand that the real estate market in many parts of our state is still quite soft and a buyers conveyance tax would create additional pressure and cost especially for lower income first time homebuyers buying in places like Manchester. In the aggregate, this could have a negative effect on the real estate market, which is an important piece of the overall health of the economy. I am reluctant to endorse additional fees or taxes that affect working class or middle class taxpayers, therefore I would not support a buyers conveyance fee on most residential purchases. I would like to either find another revenue stream or perhaps limit it to purchases over a certain amount (perhaps \$800,000, which is a threshold for the current seller conveyance tax) or to nonresidential or unimproved land. I would be happy to speak to CLCV further on this subject.

**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

**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

**7) Additional Comments:**

A clean environment and preserving natural resources including open space will be a top priority. I look forward to hopefully working with CLCV next session!