



2018 Candidate Survey on the Environment

Mark A. Lounsbury (Republican)

Senate District 19

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

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?

Uncertain

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?

Uncertain

7) Additional Comments:

Regarding single use plastic bags: I believe a more comprehensive approach which would include education, reuse/recycling, individual choice, enforcement of littering laws, and community volunteerism should be supported and the results examined and their effects determined prior to forcing the obsolescence of an industry.

Regarding Carbon Pricing: I believe that under the current push towards clean energy alternatives the implementation of technologies such as solar is adversely effecting the environment. Case in point: The construction of a 200 acre solar farm in Sprague, CT replaced an old growth forest which was clear cut. This forest's carbon sequestration in pounds of carbon annually was approximately 226,140. The total pounds of equivalent CO₂ sequestered (x3.67) was 829,933.8. This example alone leaves many questions which need answering (there are several more) prior to deciding whether or not to implement a carbon tax. I am and have been for my entire adult life a conservationist. I have learned that there are no easy/ quick fixes nor is there any single piece of legislation which can act as a panacea. Thoughtful examination will lead to effective result. Thank you for this opportunity. Mark Lounsbury (860) 204-7534