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2016 Environmental Candidate Questionnaire

CAMPAIGN CONTACT INFORMATION

Candidate Name: Linda B. Rosenthal

Office Sought (district if applicable): Assembly – 67 AD

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1. Please share your accomplishments or experiences that indicate your commitment to advancing a pro-environment agenda. These experiences may be professional or personal.

I have been actively involved in the fight to ban fracking in New York and championing clean, safe and renewable energy sources, I passed a law to ban the sale of lead-containing wheel weight balancing products. I am now working to pass legislation that would ban mercury rotational products for the harm they cause to the environmental and wildlife. I am the sponsor of the bill to extend the solar tax credit in New York City, which I passed into law a year ago and look forward to doing so again. I am the sponsor of the bill to ban coal tar road sealants, the bill to require mandatory GMO labeling on food products, to ban the use of glyphosate in state- and city-owned and operated parks, to create a tax credit for individuals who replace concrete and other impermeable spaces with vegetation and to create the affordable residential green building program, which would help to incentivize green building and construction.

Please indicate your level of commitment to, and if applicable your recent personal and professional activity with respect to, the following issues:

(To ensure your responses address the issues NYLCV and its partners are most concerned about, please review NYLCV's 2016 State Policy Agenda)

2. Ensuring adequate funding for the environmental agencies and programs

I have and will continue to fight for adequate funding for environmental agencies and programs. For years, the state has taken funding from the Environmental Protection Fund that supports critically important environmental programs to help close budget gaps. This is simply unacceptable, and each time, I was outspoken in my opposition. Funding for environmental programs should not take a back seat to any other program – it is crucial that we do all that we can now to protect and preserve the environment for future generations. I will continue to stand up for the environmental and in favor of robust funding for environmental protection.

3. Addressing the causes and effects of climate change (e.g., clean energy and emission controls)

Climate change is one of the most serious environmental, economic and social issues that we face as a nation. Each and every state, including New York, must take action to move away from dangerous and dirty energy sources that create global warming emissions and move toward a mix of clean, safe and renewable energy sources, such as wind, water and solar. I support a strong renewable energy standard and efforts to place a price on carbon and reduce emissions. We have already seen the effects of unmitigated climate change and we must take immediate action to prevent the worst predictions from becoming reality.

4. Protecting the health of New Yorkers and their communities (e.g., toxics, air quality, food quality and security)

I am the sponsor of the bill to label GMOs in New York State because I believe that people have the right to know what is in the food that they eat and put into their bodies. Building on that, I introduced legislation that would prohibit the use of potentially cancer-causing glyphosate in state- and city-owned and operated parks to protect people and wildlife from exposure to



dangerous chemicals. I am the sponsor of legislation that would prohibit the use of diesel generators in areas that do not meet ozone standards and the bill to create the diesel emissions reductions revolving loan fund.

5. Conserving and protecting natural resources (e.g., water, open spaces, habitat, organic recycling)

I support efforts to conserve and protect our natural resources. This is why I fought as hard as I did to prevent fracking from devastating our communities and environment. I support maintaining open green spaces and efforts to expand recycling in New York.

6. Investing in better, smarter infrastructure (e.g., transportation, electrical grid, green infrastructure, smart growth, rail transport of crude oil)

It's crucial that we prioritize the creation and preservation of infrastructure that will help keep our communities vibrant and growing smartly and cleanly. We must invest in mass transit statewide to provide New Yorkers with an incentive to get out of their cars and into a bus, subway or train. I am a cosponsor of complete streets community design, which places a premium on designing smart, walkable cities. In order to make the transition to clean and renewable energy sources, we must invest in a smart grid to ensure that we can effectively transmit this energy statewide. I support all of these efforts, and will continue to advocate for them.