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2016 Environmental Candidate Questionnaire

CAMPAIGN CONTACT INFORMATION

Candidate Name: Liz Krueger

Office Sought (district if applicable): State Senator, 28th District

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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 worked closely with NYLCV and other statewide environmental organizations on a number of issues, including hydrofracking, climate change, cleaning up New York's waste stream and encouraging the development of clean, safe energy sources. Among the bills I carry are a ban on the use of styrofoam food service ware by public entities (S2493), legislation requiring divestment of state pension funds from companies that engage in the production of fossil fuels (S5873) and numerous bills addressing concerns about the potential dangers of hydrofracking and hydraulic fracturing fluids (S3861, S3862, S3863). I was involved in the successful effort to push Governor Cuomo's administration to commit to phasing out New York State's coal power plants by 2020, as well as ongoing efforts to stop the construction of the AIM pipeline adjacent to the Indian Point nuclear power facility. I have also organized a petition to oppose efforts by some state legislators to overturn the plastic bag fee that was recently adopted by New York City.

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](#))

Ensuring adequate funding for the environmental agencies and programs

As the ranking Democrat on the Senate Finance Committee, I have been a strong advocate for increasing funding for the Environmental Protection Fund, and have opposed efforts to raid RGGI funds and divert them from their intended purpose. I have also supported increased funding for the DEC, and pushed for greater investment in clear water infrastructure. I have supported efforts to establish more stable operating and capital funding for the MTA.

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

I carry legislation that would promote clean energy development by banning investment of state pension funds in fossil fuel companies. I have defended RGGI against efforts to divert funds away from clean energy purposes. I was involved with advocates in successful campaigns to oppose the ratepayer bailout for the Cayuga coal-fired power plant, as well as in pushing Governor Cuomo to commit to phasing out coal power in New York by 2020. I organized 30 of my elected colleagues to publicly push the US delegation to COP 21 in Paris to deliver a rigorous climate change agreement. I have also worked with Sen. Hoylman to organize 20 of my fellow Senators in submitting comments to the Public Service Commission calling for a separate offshore wind tier in the upcoming Clean Energy Standard.

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

I am a cosponsor of the Child Safe Products Act (S5995), a ban on microbeads (S3932), legislation to close the hazardous waste loophole (S.884) and many other measures designed to ban products that threaten public health and the environment. I have supported aggressive implementation of requirements to switch to cleaner fuels, and reduce diesel and polluting

heating oil usage. I have supported farmland protection efforts and building connections between New York State farmers and the New York City market.

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

I was a strong advocate for the successful effort to prevent hydrofracking in New York State, introducing legislation and working closely with advocates to build opposition to hydrofracking. I have worked closely with advocates of preservation efforts in the Adirondack Park to fight for funding and oppose development within the park. I supported the 2014 Invasive Species Prevention Act and support efforts to expand funding for efforts to fight invasive species.

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

I have consistently cosponsored and voted for legislation encouraging smart growth, and fought for improved funding for public transportation infrastructure. I support the MOVE NY plan as one possible mechanism to address chronic underfunding of the MTA. I cosponsored complete streets legislation that became law in 2011. I support effort to better regulate rail transport of oil, and require adequate insurance and safety standards. I supported the inclusion of tax rebates for electric vehicles