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## 2016 Environmental Candidate Questionnaire

### CAMPAIGN CONTACT INFORMATION

Candidate Name: Matthew J. Titone

Office Sought (district if applicable): NYS Assembly, 61<sup>st</sup> A.D.

Website: [titoneforstatenisland.com](http://titoneforstatenisland.com)

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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 am proud to serve on the Environmental Conservation Committee of the NYS Assembly and of the budgets we have passed in the Assembly since my last election. Our 2015-2016 budget contained over \$1 billion in funding for environmental programs as well as monies for drinking water and wastewater infrastructure and recycling programs. And this year's budget exceeded that and exceeded any in the past for EPF funding, an over 120 Million dollar increase. I have continued to work to protect our parks and natural resources, have been in staunch opposition to fracking and an advocate for common sense legislation to regulate industry to protect the environment. In the past two years, I have sponsored legislation which provides incentives for energy conservation through voltage regulation, and co-sponsored or voted for a great number of pieces of environmental legislation including the New York State Climate and Community Protection Act, a bill requiring state-funded projects to consider climate change effects and legislation which ensures environmental justice. I look forward to continuing to fight for a greener, cleaner New York State and hope to have your support in doing so.

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 understand the importance of investing in our environment and was proud to support this year's budget which provided for a 120 million dollar increase in funding to the EPF – \$14 million of which was, for the first time, specifically allocated to create a climate change account. The budget also provided for \$500 million to critical environmental programs, including \$200 million in additional funds for water and sewer infrastructure improvements. The budget also provides \$1.5 million for water testing, including for lead in schools.

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

I supported the New York State climate and community protection act A.10342 as well as A. 6072 which, among other things, establishes greenhouse gas limits and a greenhouse gas reporting system and budget amendments to aid in establishing a zero emissions vehicle and clean burning fuel vehicle rebate program.

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

I sponsored the FRESH Communities Act to increase access to fresh food, sponsored legislation to limit the ability of youth to purchase sugary drinks and bring awareness to the dangers of sugar and sponsored legislation to allow schools to purchase locally sourced produce. I have supported legislation which reduces mercury in lightbulbs, restricts pesticide usage at camps and voted in favor of the Child Safe Products Act.

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

Among the first pieces of legislation I ever sponsored that were enacted were bills protecting our sea life. I continue to support legislation that protects our air, water, parks and other natural resources including A.00819 requiring the parks dept. to collect discarded recyclable materials at parks, historic sites and recreational facilities and sponsoring legislation expanding access to our parks to veterans and the surviving spouses of veterans who were killed in combat.

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

In addition to sponsoring a 2015 funding bill for bus rapid transit programs throughout the state, I supported the Petroleum Transport Surety bill and will support Governor Cuomo's crude oil transport safety agenda and efforts to implement recommended actions,