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2016 Environmental Candidate Questionnaire

CAMPAIGN CONTACT INFORMATION

Candidate Name: Thomas McKeivitt

Office Sought (district if applicable): Member of Assembly, 17th District

Twitter handle: @TomMcKeivitt1

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 believe I have a strong voting record in my ten (10) years in office regarding protection for the environment. I worked with Assemblyman Joseph Saladino in co-sponsoring and passing Chapter 543 of 2014 which requires the DEC to come up with a plan to hydraulically contain and remediate the Grumman Plume which is traveling through much of my district. I have also hosted a forum on promoting biofuels.

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 was an advocate for funding the Environmental Protection Fund at \$300 million and voted “yes” for A.9004-D which implemented it.

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

This year’s budget included \$24 million to combat climate change, and I voted in favor of A.9004-D which included this program. I have also been a proponent of increasing awareness and use of biofuels through my sponsorship of A.4181 which would require NYSERDA to develop a program to accomplish this goal, as well as voted in favor of A.6070 which would require all heating fuel in New York State to contain at least two percent (2%) biodiesel.

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

I voted in favor of A.5612-A, the Child Safe Products Act, which would outlaw various chemicals in children’s products. I have also promoted the use of biofuels to improve air quality.

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

My support for this year’s budget which included increasing the EPF funding to \$300 million, also increased programs to deal with invasive species from \$6.2 million to \$12 million. I also supported Propositions 4 and 5 on the November 2013 ballot which added 300 acres of forest preserve to Adirondack Park and expanded the Adirondack Forest Preserve by 1,500 acres. I voted “yes” in favor of A.5896, the Microbead Free Waters Act.

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

I voted in favor of A.1345 to create the Flood Mitigation and Preservation Task Force, and I have long advocated that railroads give notice to local municipalities whenever any hazardous materials are being transported within their borders.