

Policy Issues Important to Canvassing

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Climate Change Legislation

Are climate change laws effective for lowering the devastating impact of climate change?

1. This is an opportune time for making big changes:
 - a. It is no longer true that we must scale back progress to impact climate change, but rather build more renewable sources of energy as batteries are making these sources scalable.
 - b. Food production remains a major problem does not have clear solutions.
2. *Biden-Harris Administration*: The Inflation Reduction Act is the most significant piece of climate legislation in the history of the United States. It will deploy nearly \$400 billion over the coming decade to slash carbon emissions by lowering the cost of clean energy technologies.
 - a. The White House estimates that it will reduce greenhouse gas emissions by about 1 billion tons in 2030, achieving a 40% reduction in economy-wide greenhouse gas emissions by 2030.
 - i. The electric power sector should have 49-83% reduction in greenhouse gas from 2005 levels by 2030.
 - ii. The total transportations emissions should be reduced by 18-26%.
3. *Donald Trump*: Recently, he asked oil executives to raise \$1 billion to return him to the White House. At the dinner, he vowed to immediately reverse dozens of President Biden's environmental rules and policies and stop new ones from being enacted should they support his campaign.

Conclusion: Current legislation is effective for lowering carbon emissions and more legislation is needed. Democrats will likely move forward with these positive changes, whereas Republicans have vowed to dismantle the progress currently being made.

Are those we canvass likely to be worried about climate change?

1. Fewer than 5% of respondents in 2023 and 2024 Gallup surveys said climate change was the most important problem facing the country.
2. Californians are worried about "extreme weather events", i.e. wildfires, droughts.
3. 8 in 10 California likely voters say that it is a good thing that voters can make and change public policies about environmental issues.

Conclusion: Those we canvass are likely to be interested in supporting legislators whose policies are aimed at decreasing wildfires and droughts.

Where do our candidates stand on environmental legislation?

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- **George Whitesides:**

- *Commitment to reduce wildfires in California:*
 - *He left Virgin Galactic CEO to focus on preventing California wildfires by starting a non-profit devoted to this problem..*
 - *He is committed to science-based solutions for environmental justice.*
- *Endorsed:*
California Environmental Voters

- **Mike Garcia:**

- *Votes*
 - He voted against the Inflation Reduction Act mentioned above as the most significant climate legislation passed in the US.
 - The National Environmental Scorecard found him to vote against climate legislation 92% of the time.
 - He takes money from both the oil and gas industry
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- *Endorsed*
 - American Energy Alliance – encourage voters to promote free market energy.

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- **Dave Min**

- *He does not take oil money.*
- *In the California Senate he voted consistently for clean energy and transportation and mitigation of environmentally related disparities.*
- *Endorsed*
 - California Environmental Voters give him a 100% on environmental issues.

- **Scott Baugh**

- *Scott Baugh only voted for environmental issues in the California legislature 8% of the time.*
 - He is opposed to oil drilling off California's coast.
- Baugh questioned the "credibility" of scientists who say global warming is man-made.
- He supports less government oversight, including environmental issues.
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- *Endorsed*
 - Club for Growth promoting free enterprise with no government oversight, including environmental issues.

Conclusion: A vote for George Whitesides or Dave Min will increase our chances of enacting important legislation to improve the environment and prevent wildfires and drought by supporting clean energy production and eliminating major causes of wildfires. A vote for Mike Garcia or Scott Baugh will ensure that greenhouse emissions will continue unchecked in the U.S. and wildfires will continue unabated.

How do we talk about environmental issues as we canvass?

Do they relate to having personal concerns about climate change or extreme weather events such as wildfires?

1. Concerned about pollution
2. Worries about wildfires, floods, drought

Do they want to know how their vote could influence a cleaner environment in the future?