

For State Representative - 39<sup>th</sup> District

**Ronna Stuller** (Green Party)

Campaign website: [www.nlgreens.org/ronnaforrep.html](http://www.nlgreens.org/ronnaforrep.html)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/RonnaforRep39](https://www.facebook.com/RonnaforRep39)

*1. Why are you running for this office?*

(a) To bring a fresh perspective to the important issues faced by the legislature, including fiscal priorities, infrastructure needs, social and educational justice, and environmental realities.

(b) To represent all New Londoners and advocate for our city and Connecticut's other distressed municipalities, whose health is essential for sustaining a vibrant quality of life and economic resiliency in our state.

(c) To increase awareness of Green Party values – grassroots democracy, nonviolence, ecological wisdom, social justice, community-based economics, decentralization, responsibility and future focus – and broaden the political arena beyond the Republican and Democratic Party duopoly.

*2. What are your top 3 legislative priorities?*

(a) To support Connecticut's PUBLIC schools by reducing the funding gap between our state's wealthy and poor districts, increasing state financing of special education costs, stopping the proliferation of charter schools, and discontinuing the use of standardized testing to evaluate students, teachers and districts.

(b) To reconsider our current drug policy and base new legislation on science and harm reduction: to support public health and address our current opioid crisis, end racial disparities in our justice system and reduce incarceration overall, to legalize and regulate medicinal, recreational and industrial cannabis.

(c) To restore the financial health of Connecticut by creating a public bank, allowing municipalities more flexibility in administering property taxes, making our income tax more progressive, and carefully examining spending priorities.

*3. Do you believe there are barriers to voting in Connecticut? If so, what would you do to eliminate them?*

There are 3 areas in which there are barriers to voting in Connecticut:

(a) Registration and voting – By implementing DMV registration, Connecticut has reduced some barriers; however, I would support further changes, including making Election Day a holiday and allowing more liberal use of absentee ballots.

(b) Becoming informed about candidates – In some races, minor party candidates may be excluded from debates even if they are on the ballot; I would support a requirement to invite all candidates to every debate and forum. I would also support changes to CEP to make it more equitable.

(c) The ballot – Our paper ballot, which emulates the old lever machines, can be confusing and encourages party line voting; I would like to see an improved design that lists candidates for each office in random order independent of party affiliation; Washington DC has an excellent ballot design that could be adapted here.

**Chris Soto** (Democratic)

No response received.

**Andrew Lockwood** (petitioning)

No response received.