



SUFFOLK OFFICE PO Box 2060 315 E. Main Street Riverhead, NY 11901 Phone: (631) 208-9495 Fax: (631) 208-9503

NASSAU OFFICE 380 North Broadway PH West Jericho, NY 11753 Phone: (516) 681-0020 Fax: (516) 933-9019

## **L.I. ENVIRONMENTALISTS ENDORSE CANDIDATES FOR 2004 Seven Chosen as Environmental Leaders**

**For Release: September 20, 2004**

**Contact: Richard Amper (516) 383-5391**

lienvironmentalvoters.org

**New Conference: Monday, September 20, 1130 a.m. – 12:15 p.m.  
Neighborhood House, 95 Main Street, Setauket, New York**

The Long Island Environmental Voters Forum has endorsed seven candidates for office in Nassau and Suffolk Counties as those most likely to well serve Long Island's environment. The candidate's selected on the basis of past performance, questionnaire answers and some interviews are running for Congress or the New York State Legislature.

In races for the United States Congress, the Voters Forum selected incumbents Tim Bishop and Steve Israel. "These public officials have consistently made the environment a priority," said Joseph Lorintz, Chairman of the non-profit, non-partisan, grass-roots organization. The forum only endorses in campaigns where the environment is considered a critical issue and the endorsed candidates have distinguished themselves as "environmental champions."

In races for the New York State Senate, the Environmental Voters Forum chose Kenneth LaValle. In contests for State Assembly, the Voters Forum made endorsements of Thomas DiNapoli, Steven Englebright, Fred Thiele and Harvey Weisenberg. "While this was a particularly inauspicious year for the state legislator, the endorsed candidates have conspicuously put the environment near the tops of their political agendas," Lorintz explained. "Of course, we'll continue to evaluate their performance in what is expected to be a particularly active new legislative session next year," he added.

The Long Island Environmental Voters Forum identifies, recruits, and actively campaigns for pro-environmental candidates for public office. The Long Island-based organization evaluates candidates' positions on drinking water protection, open space preservation, clean air, energy, transportation and other issues affecting the health of Long Island's environment, economy and quality of life. The Environmental Voters Forum backs candidates committed to conservation and in so doing, makes government more pro-environment. "We try to support with our endorsements, the work of environmentalists toiling all year-round to make Long Island a better place to live, but who, unlike the Voters Forum, cannot endorse candidates, make campaign contributions, or support election efforts," Lorintz concluded.