

For Immediate Release

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**Climate Change responsible for Hurricane Sandy & Zika Virus mosquito northern migration
Democratic Congressional Candidate Richard Reichard calls opponent incumbent Daniel Donovan Fossil Fuel
agenda support dangerous & costly
Thursday April 21 Noon Press Conference at Midland Beach Boardwalk (Hunter Ave)**

(Staten Island April 20, 2016) Democratic Congressional Candidate Richard Reichard (NY11 Staten Island/Brooklyn) sides with the **97 percent** of climate scientists who say fossil fuels releasing carbon into the atmosphere are responsible for **Climate Change**, which contributed to **Hurricane Sandy's** impact and could usher in a future mosquito spread **Zika** epidemic. He calls out his **opponent incumbent Daniel Donovan's** votes against carbon emission reduction at a **Noon April 21 press conference at the Midland Beach Boardwalk (Hunter Avenue)**.

Midland Beach was chosen as the event's location because of the damage it sustained from Sandy. The date was selected because of its proximity to **Earth Day**.

Scientific evidence has convinced Reichard that Climate Change is real and cause by human activity. *"I'm not a scientist, but I do understand the science of climate change,"* said Reichard. *"When 97% of climate scientists say that global-warming is due to human activities, I sit up and take notice."*

He says Climate Change contributed to Sandy's carnage & destruction. *"One of the effects of an increase in global temperature is the melting of glaciers. Melting glaciers increase the sea level. It is accepted that the increase in the sea level caused by melting glaciers contributed to the size of the storm surge during Hurricane Sandy."*

Reichard is concerned that if we don't reverse Climate Change soon, insects endemic to warmer climates will surface here and spread disease.

"Another effect of a rising global temperature is that it allows insects to expand their range. The mosquito that is most closely associated with the spread of the Zika virus has not been found north of Washington D.C.," says the candidate. *"However, if we keep pumping carbon dioxide into the atmosphere and increasing global temperatures, it will only be a matter of time before this mosquito finds its way into our backyards."*

The fossil fuel industry, which donates tens of millions of dollars to Republicans, complains that controlling carbon emissions costs too much. Reichard argues that failure to do so costs more than intervention. *"The federal government is going to spend \$579 million to build a buried seawall, levee and floodwall to try to protect Staten Island's East Shore. What will be the cost if the Zika virus spreads throughout the U.S.?"*

Donovan has voted against reducing carbon emissions five times during his brief congressional career. [Click here](#) or see physical attachment for his recent carbon use votes. <http://richardreichard.com/donovancarbonvotes.pdf>

"There is a clear choice for voters between my opponent and I on the issue of climate change," said Reichard.

What: Climate Change Press Conference

Who: Democratic Congressional Candidate Richard Reichard and concerned citizens.

When: Noon April 21, 2016

Where: Midland Beach Boardwalk (Hunter Ave)

About Richard Reichard: Richard Reichard is the Democratic candidate for Congress in NY's 11th Congressional District. An issues wonk, he is a former president of the Staten Island Democratic Association (SIDA) and is a former human resources director of the NYC Department of Finance.

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