



Meriden, Berlin & Kensington Legislative Update

We are worked hard this year on legislation to address important issues for the people of Connecticut. Earlier this year we made a plan to protect people who often can't protect themselves. Victims of domestic violence, children at risk due to the poor economy, and caregivers who lost jobs during the recession, will all benefit from the progress we have made.

In addition, we have provided towns struggling with ever-tightening budgets real savings through better prescription drug pricing. I hope you find this information helpful. Please feel free to contact me if you have any questions on these programs or any other issue.



STATE REPRESENTATIVE *of the* CONNECTICUT GENERAL ASSEMBLY

860.240.8500

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CATHERINE ABERCROMBIE

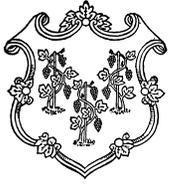
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State Representative

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SPECIAL EDUCATION

We have established standards for licensed or certified behavior analysts providing applied behavior analysis for students with autism spectrum disorders. This standard ensures that students with autism receive quality services according to their special education individualized education plan (IEP) or under an educational plan established under section 504 of the federal Rehabilitation Act of 1973. The legislation also makes changes to the Advisory Council for Special Education. It reduces the membership from 37 to 30 and requires members to reflect the racial and ethnic diversity of the children represented.

STRENGTHENING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE LAWS

The state has an obligation to ensure that victims of domestic violence are receiving the help they need. As a result, the House passed a three-part legislative package that takes a comprehensive approach to dealing with family violence in the areas of judicial and criminal justice, housing and human services, and education. The

changes are the most sweeping reforms to domestic violence laws in Connecticut in the past 25 years and include GPS monitoring for the highest risk domestic violence offenders; improvement of the enforcement of protective orders; and the creation of three additional domestic violence court dockets.

TOWNS SAVE ON HEALTH CARE

The House passed legislation that will lower prescription drug costs for Connecticut's towns. The bill gives municipalities the ability to buy prescription drugs through the state employee plan. By taking advantage of the bargaining power, low administrative costs and substantial discounts negotiated by the large state employee pool, municipalities will see substantial savings in health care costs. The bill is the right prescription for ailing municipal budgets. It will give municipalities a new tool for managing prescription costs—a key driver of rising health care costs.

State Representative

CATHERINE ABERCROMBIE

INFORMATION FOR MERIDEN, BERLIN & KENSINGTON

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