

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

# David Alexander

Sometimes constituents ask me if being a first-year state representative is difficult due to my lack of seniority, and I always answer "absolutely not." True, like all first-year legislators, I do not have an opportunity to participate in high-level leadership negotiations regarding issues such as the state budget, but I do have the ability to work for things that directly help Enfield. In the end that is what makes the job so rewarding.

For example, this past legislative session I worked with the co-chairs of the Transportation Committee and with state Department of Transportation officials to dedicate a portion of Route 5 in Enfield as the Tanguay-Magill American Legion Post 80 Memorial Highway. Post 80 has a proud history of community service for Enfield, and I felt that it was most fitting that the Post be awarded this honor.

I was asked to be the Commissioner for the Educational Resources for Children's (ERfC) first-annual KidZ Sports Challenge at Henry Barnard School. The ERfC does an amazing job of providing after-school support for Enfield's youth, and this year's KidZ Sports Challenge successfully encouraged youngsters from kindergarten age to fifth grade to stay active and fit. The ERfC provided this event free of charge for Enfield students, and I hope that it grows into a yearly tradition for Enfield.

Please let me know if you would like me to participate in any event during the upcoming year, or if you need any constituent or legislative assistance.

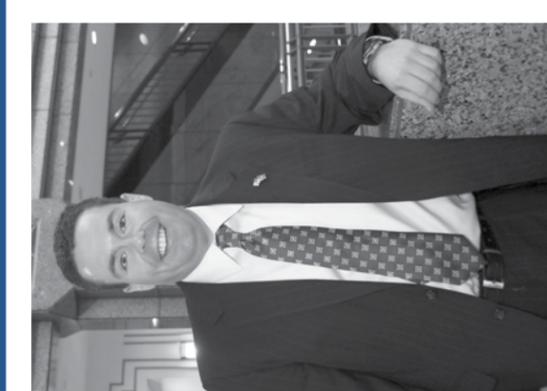


## CONTACT INFORMATION

Legislative Office Building  
Hartford, CT 06106-1591  
Capitol: 860-240-8585  
David.Alexander@cga.ct.gov  
www.housedems.ct.gov

STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**David Alexander**  
PROUDLY SERVING ENFIELD | 58TH DISTRICT

Legislative Office Building  
Hartford, CT 06106-1591  
Capitol: 860-240-8585  
david.alexander@cga.ct.gov  
www.housedems.ct.gov



PRSR STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
HARTFORD, CT  
Permit No. 3937

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

# David Alexander

PROUDLY SERVING  
ENFIELD | 58TH DISTRICT



## CAPITOL UPDATE 2013

Dear Neighbor:

Thank you for the privilege of allowing me to serve you as your State Representative. This past legislative session was both very demanding and very rewarding. Our session began with the horrific tragedy that occurred in Newtown, Connecticut, and it ended with a passed budget that, although flawed and imperfect, will hold aid to towns neutral and will not increase taxes.

Throughout this session I tried my best to work as a team with the entire Enfield delegation to champion the causes that affect our town the most. This newsletter is a brief update about some of the issues we addressed during this session, and some of the work that I tried to do on behalf of the people of Enfield.

I am busy with legislative business even though the General Assembly is not in session. For instance, I am currently serving on a legislative task force, and I am also working on my goals for the 2014 legislative session. In particular, I plan to continue fighting for a Thompsonville Rail Station and for jobs for recently discharged veterans from active-duty. I also plan on submitting a bill to allow adoptees to have the right to obtain their original birth certificate when turning 18 years old.

Again, it is a distinct honor to serve you as your State Representative, and I do not take it for granted. Please let me know if you have any questions, comments or concerns. Have a safe and enjoyable fall and winter!

Sincerely,

State Representative  
David Alexander



THOMPSONVILLE LIGHT-RAIL

One of my top priorities is getting a light-rail station for Thompsonville along the proposed New Haven to Springfield rail line. This year we were able to get a public hearing held by the Transportation Committee regarding a Thompsonville station. Members of Enfield's Town Council and legislative delegation testified in favor of the station. This prompted Commissioner James Redeker to come to Enfield and meet with officials regarding a Thompsonville station. U.S. Senator Chris Murphy also visited Enfield to discuss this issue, and this summer Enfield leaders met with Economic and Community Development Commissioner Catherine Smith about the Thompsonville rail station. I plan to continue to work towards getting bonding money to help build a platform for the proposed station.

JOBS FOR VETERANS

As someone who recently returned to Enfield after active-duty service in the Marine Corps, I know the difficulties young veterans face when transitioning to civilian life. Connecticut is expecting approximately 8,000 young veterans returning in the next few years. In light of this, I proposed a Young Veterans Jobs Bill this past session that would require Connecticut to accept Department of Defense licenses and education credits that veterans earned while on active duty. The Veterans Affairs Committee decided to form a task force to look into this issue. Governor Malloy recently signed an Executive Order mandating that the commissioners and agency heads examine this issue and produce tangible results by January 2014.

SCHOOL SAFETY

Enfield's decision to add armed guards in our schools has produced strong responses, but we can all agree that protecting our children must be a top priority. This law requires that an armed guard working in a school must meet certain requirements. If they are not a police officer, they must be a retired police officer or state trooper who was in good standing at the time of their retirement. They must also complete firearms qualification training and receive training from the Police Officer Standards and Training Council on school security.



David enjoying "Green Eggs and Ham" with Enfield Head Start Students.

SYNCHRONIZING PRESCRIPTION REFILLS

This law means that all of a patient's prescription refills will occur on the same day every month. This law protects patients by requiring that insurance companies cover prescriptions filled in a synchronized manner as long as the patient, their doctor, and the pharmacist approve the medication plan. This legislation helps small pharmacies that offer home delivery of prescriptions, by allowing them to cut down overhead costs by only delivering to a specific home once a month.

LIVABLE COMMUNITIES FOR SENIORS

This initiative gives seniors a choice in their long term care. In some circumstances it might be in a senior's best interest to stay at home with assistance from a visiting nurse instead of moving into a nursing home. This legislation requires the Commission on Aging to establish and facilitate partnerships with municipal leaders and social service organizations to encourage collaborative efforts for long term care planning. By January 1, 2014, state resources will be available that facilitate aging-in-place and the creation of livable communities, and will be required to establish a website that acts as a single portal for disseminating information on nationwide initiatives.

NEXT GENERATION CONNECTICUT

This legislation invests \$1.55 billion in state bonds for critical construction, renovations, infrastructure and equipment. This will increase UConn's pre-eminence in research and creative programs, support outstanding faculty, educate students to meet the state's future workforce needs, and make more collaborative partnerships. UConn is the flagship university for our state and was recently named a "Top 20 Public University." Our state will benefit with a more prepared workforce in the future and with the technology and innovation coming out of UConn.

Let's Keep In Touch
Sign Up For Email Updates:
housedems.ct.gov/Alexander
Find us on facebook
facebook.com/CTHouseDemocrats

HIGHER EDUCATION

This session the legislature worked hard to make the admissions process in Connecticut easier and more transparent by passing legislation that requires all Connecticut higher education institutions to provide uniform financial aid information prior to the enrollment deadline. Every higher education institution in Connecticut is now required to use the financial aid shopping sheet developed by the Federal Consumer Financial Protection Bureau and the U.S. Department of Education. Students and parents are now able to do side-by-side comparisons on each school's financial aid package.

NEWBORN SCREENING

Adrenoleukodystrophy (ALD) is a life-threatening genetic disorder. As a member of the Public Health Committee, I was at the public hearing regarding this issue, and it was extremely gut-wrenching. This law would add ALD to the statutory list of newborn screening tests. Screening for ALD would mean early detection, which would help to reduce the long term effects of this disorder and increase the chances of survival.



David at the dedication for American Legion Post 80's Memorial Highway.

GOVERNOR'S SCHOLARSHIP

We established the Governor's Scholarship program which streamlines the state financial aid program for all Connecticut residents at in-state public and private higher education institutions by consolidating the state's existing undergraduate student aid program. This creates a more standardized and equitable means of awarding need and merit based scholarships for students at our state colleges and universities. Students who currently receive awards under these programs will continue to receive them for the life of the original award so long as they continue to meet the respective program's academic standards.