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*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 Newton, Connecticut and it ended with a passed budget that, although flawed and imperfect, will hold aid to towns neutral and will not increase taxes. I was especially proud of the work my colleagues and I did within the House Democratic Caucus to remove an “Energy Auction” proposal in the budget that could possibly have harmed energy prices for seniors.

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 gives a brief update about some of the issues we addressed during this session, and I hope you enjoy it. 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 summer!

*Sincerely,*

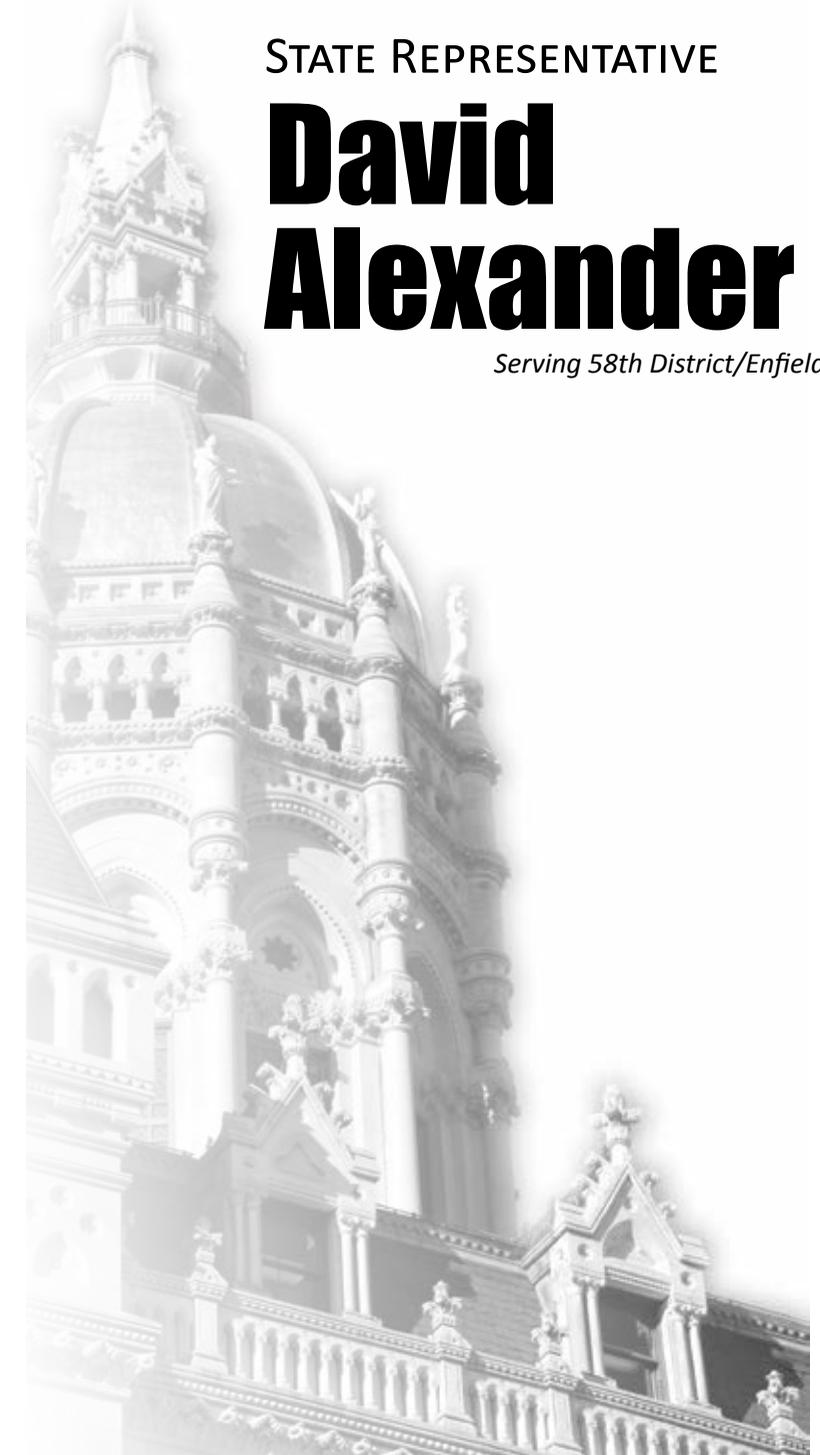
David Alexander



STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**David Alexander**



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STATE REPRESENTATIVE

**David Alexander**

*Serving 58th District/Enfield*



## Commuter Rail for Enfield

As a member of the Transportation Committee, I have been a passionate advocate for getting a train station placed in Thompsonville on the proposed New Haven to Springfield line. In February, the Transportation Committee held a public hearing regarding the bill I proposed on this issue. In early March, the Department of Transportation Commissioner, James Redeker came to Enfield to meet with town leaders regarding a proposed train station, and in mid-April, Senator Chris Murphy visited Enfield regarding this issue. Currently, I am working with my colleagues within the General Assembly to statutorily require a train station in Thompsonville and obtain bonding money for the Thompsonville rail platform.

### Let's Keep In Touch

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## Improving Quality of Life

As a member of the Public Health Committee, I worked with committee members to better prevent and respond to chronic illness. One bill we passed would establish an advisory board to recommend the best practices for preventing, diagnosing and treating Lyme Disease and other tick-borne illnesses.

A second bill convenes an Alzheimer's Task Force to develop a comprehensive, strategic plan to address Alzheimer's Disease.

A third bill requires newborn screening for Adrenoleukodystrophy, which is a devastating genetic disease that can be life-altering and deadly if not detected early. Screening for this illness would allow doctors to cure or greatly mitigate this horrific disease.



## Jobs for Veterans

Due to military downsizing, Connecticut is expecting 5,000 to 7,000 veterans returning to our state in the next five years, between the ages of 22 and 32. These young adults are going to need assistance transitioning into civilian life. This year I proposed a bill that would allow veterans to transfer credit and credentials that they earned in the military to state licensing requirements. For instance, if a Navy Corpsman obtained valid Department of Defense licensing or credentials in nursing then that Corpsman should be allowed to transfer those licenses or credentials to help them become a nurse in Connecticut. This applies to a wide-ranging list of military jobs, especially in medicine, truck-driving, and construction. This spring Governor Malloy and his Veterans Cabinet met at Enfield's American Legion Post 80 to discuss this issue, and this year the General Assembly passed **HB 5387** which will form a task force to look into this issue. The Governor and members of the General Assembly are strongly in favor of this concept, and the thought was to form this task force in order to see what credentials and licenses Connecticut can accept. I have reached out to leaders within the General Assembly about possibly being appointed to this task force, and hopefully I will serve on it this summer. As someone who recently returned to Enfield after serving four years on active duty in the Marine Corps, I know the difficulties that veterans face when returning home. Helping our veterans will help to grow our state's economy.

