



Dear neighbor,

The 2024 legislative session is in the books, and I am proud of what we accomplished.

My goal for the session was to ensure we invested in our priorities while preserving tax cuts for families and seniors.

By passing our fiscal stabilization plan we protected the largest and second-largest tax cuts in state history and ensured more retirement income would be tax-exempt. We also filled our priority buckets by increasing funding for higher education, early childhood, mental health, and nonprofits.

This newsletter has more details.

Enjoy,



STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**RAGHIB ALLIE-BRENNAN**

**PROUDLY SERVING BETHEL & DANBURY**

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**CAPITOL  
UPDATE 2024**

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UPDATE 2024**



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OUR BIPARTISAN BUDGET INCLUDES

# PROTECTING TAX CUTS

**WE PASSED A BIPARTISAN BIENNIUM BUDGET THAT INCLUDES HISTORIC TAX CUTS AND INVESTMENTS FOR OUR COMMUNITY.**

- **LARGEST INCOME TAX CUT** in state history
- **Biggest investment in public education ever**
- **New supports for the IDD community**
- **Expansion of debt free community college**
- **Protected safety net programs**

**THIS SESSION WE PROTECTED THESE TAX CUTS AND INVESTED MILLIONS OF FEDERAL FUNDS IN:**

- **Higher Education - \$160 million with a path to grow to \$200 million**
- **Early Childcare - \$21.8 million**
- **Mental Health - \$24 million**
- **Nonprofits - \$50 million**

## PROTECTING DEMOCRACY

- **Banned foreign nationals from making campaign contributions in CT or spending money on behalf of candidates**
- **Required video monitoring of ballot drop boxes**
- **Made it a crime to harass election workers**

## COLLABORATING ON LOCAL ZONING PROTECTIONS

I remain committed to ensuring that any changes we make in Hartford are in the best interest of our community, fostering well-rounded and sustainable growth while safeguarding the integrity of our neighborhoods.

This session I successfully negotiated the inclusion of language that would provide municipalities with an additional pathway to implement a moratorium on new high-density housing developments by recognizing the importance of “middle housing.”

I also worked with leadership to remove bill language that would undermine essential processes such as the design review and Inland Wetlands review for certain development projects.

I’m pleased to report that, in the end, legislation that would have been detrimental to our communities did not pass both chambers. This is a win for our neighborhoods!

## SUPPORTING LOCAL SCHOOLS

- **Established the Education Mandate Review Advisory Council to review proposed and existing mandates on local boards of education**
- **Required same-day parental notification when a child hurts themselves or others**
- **Capped the amount of money all districts pay to send kids out of district – saving millions of dollars for local schools**
- **Required the State Department of Education to provide school districts with an estimate of their next year’s funding by the end of the current year, to ensure better budgeting**
- **Provided help to classroom paraeducators to pay for their health insurance**

## PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT

- **Banned numerous products containing dangerous PFAS chemicals**
- **Required better notice when herbicides are sprayed along railroads**
- **Increased enforcement of boating laws on bodies of water that border our neighboring states**
- **Expedited permitting for solar canopies and lifted caps on new solar production**
- **Increased hydropower going to our power grid and extended offshore wind procurement**

## KEEPING OUR COMMUNITIES SAFE

- **Improved the eligibility process for getting benefits to the families of first responders who died in the line of duty**
- **Established a Fallen Officer Fund to provide families of police officers who died in the line of duty with cash assistance and health care coverage**
- **Required more thorough testing of firearms in criminal investigations with the use of the federal ballistic database**
- **Protected the personal information of special victims like minors and victims of abuse from public disclosures**
- **Toughened penalties for killing a police dog**

## TAKING CARE OF OUR MOST VULNERABLE

- **Protected domestic violence victims from being forced into debt by their abuser**
- **Made it easier to qualify for and receive payouts from, the state’s Emergency Mortgage Assistance program**
- **Excluded medical debt from counting against your credit score**
- **Cut red tape when it comes to getting wheelchairs under Medicaid and required their timely repair**
- **Strengthened inspections and regulation of youth camps**
- **Streamlined criminal background checks for prospective foster families without compromising thoroughness**
- **Required the Department of Children and Families to hold safety plan visits in-person**