

STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**DAVID ARCONTI JR.**  
PROUDLY SERVING DANBURY - 109TH DISTRICT



Dear Neighbor:

One of my priorities in Hartford is working toward a leaner and more efficient government, while ensuring the protection of our most vulnerable citizens and keeping essential services properly funded.

Each year brings a new set of challenges, and the 2014 session was no different. The need to encourage economic growth, help working families, and make critical investments in the future of our children, as well as our state, was clear.

However, we were able to make valuable investments and provide additional funding to our municipalities without raising taxes, while remaining under the spending cap.

I was happy to support key legislation including affordable education, sustaining the current workforce and the creation of new jobs, promoting economic development, lowering energy costs, and improving chronic disease care coordination.

As always, your input helps me to represent you properly. Please do not hesitate to call or email me with your thoughts, ideas or suggestions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "David Arconti".

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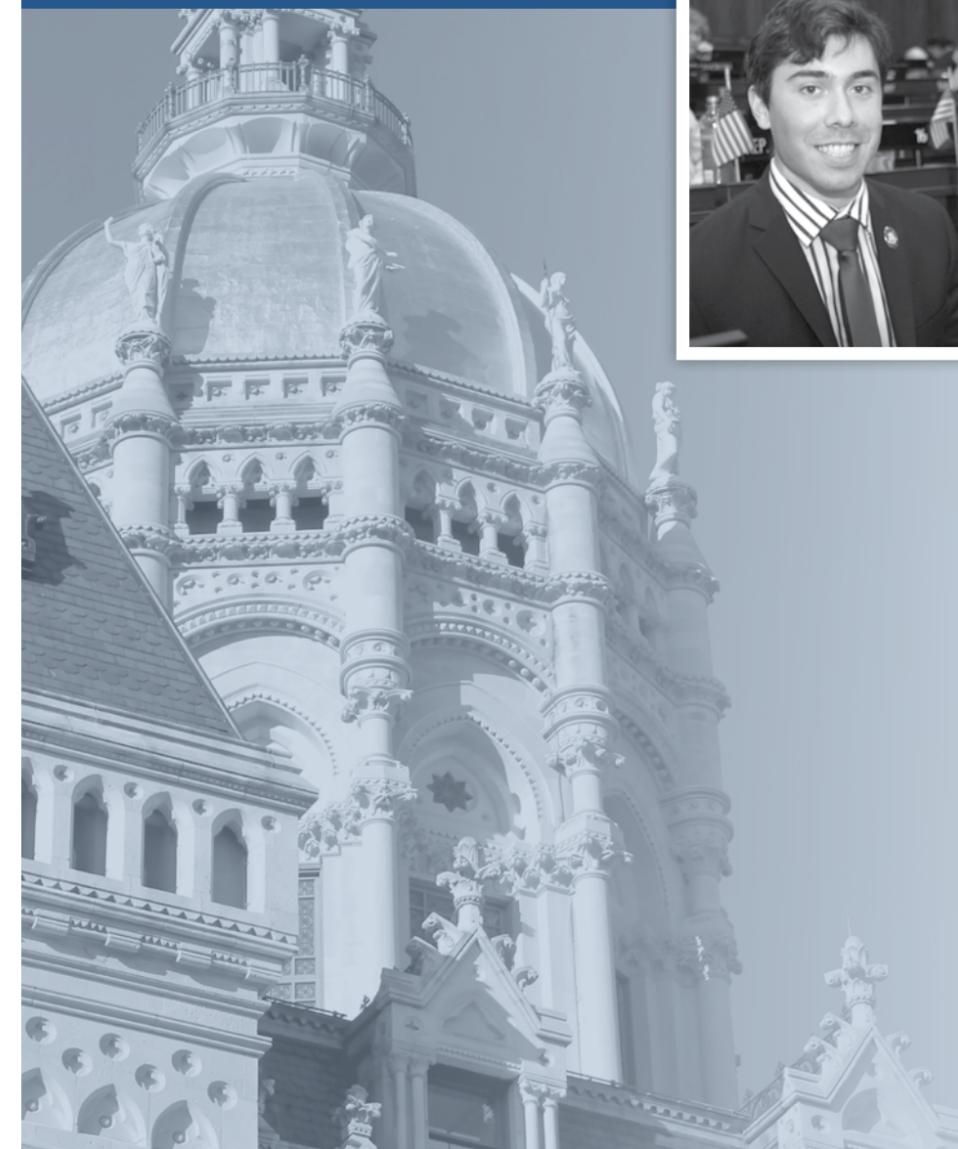


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**CAPITOL UPDATE 2014**

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# DAVID ARCONTI JR.

PROUDLY SERVING DANBURY - 109TH DISTRICT

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Rep. Arconti, Governor Malloy, Dan Hayes, War Memorial Director and Rep. Godfrey

## BUDGET 2015

Connecticut created a balanced budget that protects working families, gives more support to our cities and towns, does not raise taxes and remained under the spending cap. While accomplishing this goal the state was still able to make many investments and provide additional funding to our municipalities.

This budget provides long-term tax relief for our residents. Teachers' pensions will begin to see an income tax exemption and we have put money back into the rental relief for seniors program. We also added additional dollars to strengthen mental health services in the state to offer more access to services for victims of rape and sexual assault.

Lastly, our budget makes strong investments in the state itself. It looks to protect our state treasures by investing in our state parks. It also provides funding to combat aquatic invasive species that threaten our lakes and increases funding to improve our state roads, rails, and bridges.

### DANBURY GRANTS - FISCAL YEAR 2015

Adult Education	\$ 300,638
Colleges and Hospitals PILOT	\$ 1,366,578
Education Cost Sharing	\$ 29,554,523
Local Capital Improvement Program	\$ 545,776
Bonded MRSA Payments	\$ 1,624,148
Non-Public School Transportation	\$ 237,766
Pequot/Mohegan Grant	\$ 952,216
Public School Transportation	\$ 488,886
State Owned Pilot	\$ 2,411,641
Town Aid Road	\$ 847,951
<b>Est Total Danbury Funds In 2015</b>	<b>\$ 38,330,123</b>
Est Total Danbury Funds In 2014	\$ 35,703,890
<b>Est Increased Funds From 2014-2015</b>	<b>\$ 2,626,233</b>



## ELECTRIC CUSTOMER CONSUMER PROTECTION

This year, we added much-needed transparency to an issue concerning the jump in energy rates that we heard about from many state residents.

Energy suppliers will now be prohibited from offering consumers short-term "teaser" energy contracts with low rates, then switching to much higher variable rate contracts within weeks. Termination fees would be capped at \$50 under the law, and a consumer could switch back to the standard rate charged by UI or CL&P within 72 hours.

More transparent billing methods, prohibitions of coercive and deceptive sales practices and faster switching, so a customer can fire a company quickly and easily, will empower consumers.

## COMMITTING UTC TO CONNECTICUT

Connecticut has a long and proud tradition in the aerospace manufacturing industry. This year, we cemented this tradition by working with United Technologies Corp. (UTC) to make Connecticut their home for years to come.

UTC has committed to upgrade and expand its current facilities and to invest in research and development, which will bring high paying jobs to Connecticut and lower the property tax burden in our communities. In addition, science and engineering graduates will be able to find exciting work right here in Connecticut.

## THE NEW OFFICE OF EARLY CHILDHOOD

Early childhood education is critical to a child's development, providing a solid foundation for future learning. This year, we formally established the Office of Early Childhood, which will develop a plan to improve access to preschool programs and achieve universal Pre-K in Connecticut. It will administer programs and funding that affect our children from birth until elementary school.

Pre- K helps prepare children for grade school, academically and socially, and is a great long-term investment for taxpayers. Pre-K not only increases the chances of future success in and out of the classroom, but helps meet the ongoing challenge of providing equal educational opportunities for every child.

## DANBURY WAR MEMORIAL REPAIRS

We fought hard to secure \$875,000 in state financing to support building a new roof for the War Memorial Building in Danbury. This is a critical and important investment because the building doubles as an emergency shelter for our town.

## INCREASING THE MINIMUM WAGE

We recently increased the minimum wage to \$10.10, effective by 2017. This boost will help thousands of struggling working families in our state and add hundreds of millions of dollars to our economy.

Connecticut led a national discussion just two years ago about getting to a \$10 minimum wage, and we are proud to lead the way again, setting the stage for Congress to follow suit.

## FIRST RESPONDER DAY



I was honored to co-sponsor a bill establishing a First Responder Day each year, starting September 27, 2014 that passed unanimously. This legislation recognizes the service, commitment, sacrifice and contributions of public safety and public health personnel who put their lives on the line when responding to emergencies across the state every day.

## PUTTING YOUR HEALTH FIRST

Out of pocket medical costs discourage patients from seeking treatment. This law limits copays for breast ultrasound screenings and occupational therapy, two important services that lower long-term costs and improve outcomes. Health insurance policies that are required to provide ultrasound coverage will be prohibited from imposing a copayment of more than \$20 for breast ultrasound screening. Coverage is required in certain cases, including when a patient is at increased risk for breast cancer because of family history or genetic testing. Certain health insurance policies may not impose a copayment of more than \$30 per visit for in-network occupational therapy services.