



State Representative

JOE ARESIMOWICZ

Keeping us Healthy

This year we passed several public health measures aimed at improving preventive care and access to coverage.

SUSTINET PLAN

PA 09-148 | SB 458 – EFFECTIVE: 10.01.09

- » Provides a framework for expanding high quality coverage to more residents
- » Establishes a nine-member board of healthcare providers and experts
- » Creates new public health insurance options that will be affordable
- » Allows Connecticut to take full advantage of Obama's federal reforms

EARLY DETECTION OF BREAST CANCER

PA 09-41 | SB 458 – EFFECTIVE: 10.01.09

- » Facilitates the early detection of breast cancer
- » Women with dense breast tissue have higher risks of cancer
- » Requires mammography reports to include breast density data so women can: – identify their risk level – detect cancer earlier

HEALTH CARE FOR STEPCHILDREN

PA 09-124 | HB 5433 – EFFECTIVE: Upon passage

- » Requires health insurance policies to provide the same benefits to stepchildren as biological children

IMPROVED OUTCOMES FOR LYME DISEASE PATIENTS

PA 09-128 | HB 6200 – EFFECTIVE: 07.01.09

- » Gives doctors and patients a new treatment option for chronic Lyme disease
- » Permits the use of long-term antibiotic therapy to treat infection and symptoms

CONTACT JOE ARESIMOWICZ

Legislative Office Building

Room 5002

Hartford, CT 06106-1591

Capitol: 860.240.8500

Joe.Aresimowicz@cga.ct.gov

www.housedems.ct.gov/Aresimowicz



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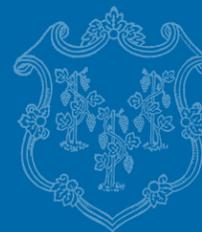
CAPITOL NEWS 2009

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Providing for our Armed Forces Members & their Families

The service and sacrifices of our Armed Forces members must always be valued and honored. This session we passed several new laws to aid them and their families.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

PA 09-10 | HB 6406 – EFFECTIVE: Upon passage

- » Ensures that members of the armed forces can receive transitional behavioral health services
- » Applies to families and dependents of armed forces members as well

RELIEF FOR MILITARY FAMILIES

PA 09-163 | HB 6394 – EFFECTIVE: Upon passage

- » Expands the Military Family Relief Fund
- » Allows immediate relatives of members not on active duty to receive benefits
- » Provides grants to pay for essential personal or household items when in hardship

Assisting our Seniors

Improving the lives of seniors so they may be healthy, safe, and economically secure is a central role of our state government.

To improve their overall quality of life, we passed several new legislative initiatives.

AFFORDABLE ELDERLY HOMECARE

PA 09-64 | SB 814 – EFFECTIVE: 04.01.10

- » Expands access to affordable homecare support services
- » Helps seniors remain independent in their own homes rather than nursing homes
- » Expands personal care assistance services to more of our seniors

LOCATING MISSING SENIORS

PA 09-109 | SB 451 – EFFECTIVE: 07.01.09

- » Creates an emergency notification system similar to the Amber Alert
- » Allows law enforcement agencies to issue public alerts for missing seniors

SENIOR DISCOUNT PROGRAMS

PA 09-53 | HB 5674 – EFFECTIVE: 10.01.09

- » Provides seniors with greater access to senior citizen discount programs
- » Requires businesses to disclose details of programs and eligibility requirements

PATIENTS RIGHTS AT A NURSING HOME

PA 09-168 | SB 455 – EFFECTIVE: 10.01.09

- » Expands the Nursing Home Bill of Rights to prohibit the solicitation of donations or gifts as a condition of admission
- » Extends protections to third parties, such as families and friends



Keeping our Children Safe & Healthy

Children need our protection from the numerous harms that exist. This legislative session I worked hard with my colleagues to pass legislation to do just that.

BANNING TOXIC CHEMICALS

PA 09-103 | HB 6572 – EFFECTIVE: 10.01.09

- » Bans bisphenol-A, an industrial chemical with toxic properties
- » Baby bottles and food and beverage containers will be safer for kids

PREVENTING CARDIAC ARREST IN SCHOOLS

PA 09-94 | SB 981 – EFFECTIVE: 07.01.09

- » Requires each school to have an automatic external defibrillator
- » Provides training to school staff for its use and for CPR

GREEN CLEANING PRODUCTS

PA 09-81 | HB 6496 – EFFECTIVE: 10.01.09

- » Promotes use of safe green cleaning products in schools
- » Hazardous cleaning chemicals currently used in most schools will be replaced
- » Requires schools to implement a green cleaning program

HEALTH INSURANCE FOR AUTISM TREATMENTS

PA 09-115 | SB 301 – EFFECTIVE: 01.01.10

Requires insurance coverage of critical treatments and benefits that will greatly help the lives of people with autism

These treatments are:

- » Diagnosis to determine if an individual has an autism spectrum disorder
- » Behavioral therapies to children 14 years old or younger including, but not limited to, applied behavior analysis and cognitive behavioral therapy
- » Prescription drugs
- » Psychiatric and psychological services
- » Physical and occupational therapy
- » Speech and language pathology services

The results are:

- » Higher quality of life for the individual
- » Decrease in lifetime costs of treatment
- » Connecticut has become the 12TH state to require this comprehensive coverage

Protecting your Home, Savings, & Credit

We took action to aid consumers hurt by recent events and protect you from:

- » The recent sub-prime mortgage crisis
- » Corrupt money managers like Bernie Madoff

SAFEGUARDS AGAINST MORTGAGE FORECLOSURES

PA 09-209 | SB 948 – EFFECTIVE: 07.01.09/10.01.09

- » Implements federal reforms
- » Creates many new safeguards against future mortgage foreclosures to better protect homeowners
- » Regulates the mortgage lending process
- » Expands eligibility for state foreclosure prevention programs

PROTECTING COLLEGE STUDENTS' CREDIT

PA 09-167 | HB 6483 – EFFECTIVE: 07.01.09

- » Requires the Board of Governors of Higher Education to adopt policies
- » Regulates credit card marketing practices on public college campuses
- » Protects young consumers from being unfairly targeted

EMERGENCY MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE

PA 09-219 | HB 6481 – EFFECTIVE: 07.01.09/10.01.09

- » Expands eligibility for the Emergency Mortgage Assistance Program
- » Assists more families so that their loss of income due to illness or job-loss won't result in a family losing their home

PREVENTING BLIGHT

PA 09-144 | SB 951 – EFFECTIVE: 10.01.09

- » Remedies blighted properties created by the foreclosure crisis
- » Provides maintenance to improve vacant foreclosed properties
- » Allows municipalities to enforce the requirement to repair or maintain vacant real estate using current laws



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