



Dear Neighbor,

This newsletter is packed full of information from the 2022 legislative session.

I'm proud to report that we approved a state budget adjustment that ensures we live within our means and cuts taxes by hundreds-of-millions-of-dollars.

I know that there is lots of information to digest in these few pages, so please reach out with any questions.

It is my pleasure to serve as your state representative.

All my best,

Tom Arnone

2022 SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- Addressing Children's Mental Health Needs
- Cutting Taxes to Combat Historic Inflation
- Keeping CT Safe with Juvenile Justice Reform
- Protecting Reproductive Freedoms
- Creating Environmentally Conscious Initiatives
- Maintaining CT's Future Fiscal Integrity



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
TOM ARNONE

PROUDLY SERVING ENFIELD

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**CAPITOL
UPDATE 2022**

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**CAPITOL
UPDATE 2022**



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I VOTED TO CUT YOUR TAXES

OUR STATE BUDGET INCLUDES

\$650 MILLION IN TAX RELIEF

- ✔ Creates a Child Tax Credit
- ✔ Cuts taxes for homeowners
- ✔ Cuts the car tax
- ✔ Extends the gas tax cut
- ✔ Extends free bus service
- ✔ Ends pension and annuity tax
- ✔ Invests in healthcare workers

SERVING THOSE WHO SERVE US

- Guaranteed CT veterans in-state tuition rates
- Adopted higher fire department equipment standards, collecting better data on the prevalence of cancer among firefighters, and secured more local funding for firefighters who leave service with a cancer diagnosis
- Provided funding to local volunteer fire departments who respond to emergencies on certain state highways
- Established a new, local-option property tax exemption equal to 10% of home values for more veterans

EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD INITIATIVES

- Increased funding for infant and toddler care programs
- Increased pay to childcare workers to attract and retain more educators
- Expanded successful Birth to Three Program
- Approved state child tax payment
- Ensured teachers get an uninterrupted 30 minutes for lunch
- Expanded scholarships for minority teachers

RESPONDED TO JUVENILE CRIME

Responded to Juvenile Crime, Auto Thefts and Pandemic-related Crime Diversion:

- Invested in Youth Service Bureaus and Juvenile Review Boards
- Increased work opportunities for young adults
- Expanded alternatives to incarceration

Keeping the public safe:

- Expanded hands-on training for police
- Addressed laboratory and case backlogs
- Expanded use of GPS monitoring
- Toughened penalties for vehicle thefts
- Created more crisis training for our police
- Funded state and local task forces to address gun violence and auto thefts



LEADING OUR KIDS PAST THE PANDEMIC AND TO PROMISING FUTURES

- Provided grants to local schools to hire more support staff, with an emphasis on mental health: social workers, psychologists, and counselors
- Funded the expansions of school-based health centers and the services they provide
- Created new walk-ins for mental health emergencies
- Initiated new position at the Healthcare Advocate to help families navigate care for children and adolescents
- Expanded 24/7 emergency mental health response
- Established state oversight and coordination of state response to kids' mental health needs
- Helped school-based health centers develop new mental health programming
- Provided mental health training to parents, students, and pediatricians

FIGHTING CLIMATE CHANGE & PROTECTING CT'S ENVIRONMENT

- Created a public health reporting system for homeowners who have an abundance of salt in their drinking water
- Set a goal of reaching zero greenhouse gas emissions from electricity supplied to you by 2040
- Expanded financing to develop zero emission vehicle infrastructure, build more solar power and fuel cells, and reinforce our electric grid against the effects of climate change
- Expanded eligibility for participation in the state's brownfield remediation program to include companies who lease a property with an intent to own
- Expanded sophisticated testing of shellfish
- Invested in repopulating native salmon and eel populations
- Explored new waste management programming
- Created new incentives for consumer and commercial electric vehicles