

# SESSION WRAP-UP

Dear Neighbor,

It is a privilege and honor to serve as your state representative. The 2023 legislative session is now in the rearview mirror, and I wanted to take a moment to check in and share some highlights from the past several months.

I'm proud to have worked on a budget that delivers historic tax cuts and increased funding for students, families, and our most vulnerable residents, while paying down our long-term debt, including an additional \$2.072 billion in unfunded future pension liability.

We prioritized education, supported non-profits, invested in protecting reproductive healthcare, and strengthened Connecticut's voter laws all while working in a bipartisan fashion. I'd love to hear from you if you would like more details or have any questions on any of the initiatives addressed in this legislative update.

Sincerely,

H. Arzeno.



## BIG WINS FOR GREENWICH

- ✓ \$6.5mn for Greenwich Boys and Girls Club
- ✓ \$250k for Greenwich Boy Scouts
- ✓ \$100k for Barbara's House
- ✓ \$25k for Family Centers
- ✓ \$25k for Alliance for Education
- ✓ \$150k for food waste diversion for Greenwich public schools



# 2023 LEGISLATIVE RECAP

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE HECTOR ARZENO

PROUDLY SERVING GREENWICH

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## SCAN ME



Scan the QR to code to learn about all the major public acts passed this session.

# 2023 LEGISLATIVE RECAP



## FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE HECTOR ARZENO

PROUDLY SERVING GREENWICH



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# OUR BIPARTISAN BUDGET INCLUDES HISTORIC TAX CUTS!

## A STATE BUDGET FOCUSED ON:



### CUTTING YOUR TAXES

Our budget includes the **largest Personal Income Tax cut in CT history** by cutting marginal income tax rates, increasing the Earned Income Tax Credit, capping mill rates, and eliminating even more retirement income taxes.



### INDUSTRY GROWTH

Our budget **supports CT's growing industries** such as childcare, adult-use cannabis, manufacturing, and media, film, and theater production.



### INVESTING IN OUR STUDENTS

Our budget **invests over \$240M in public education** by stabilizing our state colleges and universities, expanding debt-free community college, fully funding our schools and local boards of education, and increasing scholarships and student debt relief.



### SAFETY NET SERVICES

Our budget expands Temporary Family Assistance, increases Husky C. eligibility, provides funds to community action agencies for residents facing immediate economic hardship, supports the 9-8-8 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, and increases Medicaid rate reimbursements for providers and specialists.



### IDD SUPPORTS

Our budget **invests over \$30M to better serve Intellectually or Developmentally Disabled individuals** by addressing agency waiting lists for services, bolstering employment opportunities, increasing Husky C. eligibility, and breaking down silos for better coordination and data collection.

## PROTECTING REPRODUCTIVE HEALTHCARE

- Allowed pharmacists to prescribe emergency contraceptives and guaranteed their availability in case of an emergency.
- Directed all state college and university campuses to provide reproductive health resources to students.
- Ensured access to fertility treatment and expanded Medicaid coverage for long-term contraceptives.
- Created mental health toolkits for new parents.
- Protected pharmacists and health care providers who are licensed in other states from discipline when they provide reproductive health services in our state.
- Kept healthcare providers from being punished, losing their license, or experiencing insurance hikes because they provided reproductive health care services.
- Extended health insurance coverage for newborns from 61 days to 91 days.

## FIGHTING FOR OUR STUDENTS

- Required a state audit of all standardized testing.
- Required highschoolers to take a financial literacy class before graduating.
- Required boards of education to provide translator services and established rights for multilingual learners.



## STRENGTHENING CT VOTING RIGHTS

- Enacted early voting – providing voting opportunities 14 days before Election Day for general elections, 7 days before most primaries, and 4 days before special elections and the Presidential primary.
- Approved a resolution that will ask voters in the Nov. 2024 election whether we should have no excuse absentee ballots.
- Adopted anti-discrimination laws around voting.

## SUPPORTING THOSE WHO SERVED

- Granted free graduate school tuition to eligible veterans and their families, as well as active members of the National Guard.
- Established funding and benefits for firefighters who are diagnosed with cancer.



## PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

- Allowed permits for factories, waste plants, and other polluters to be denied or have conditions on them when they are proposed in locations that have historically dealt with high levels of pollution.
- Banned hand-harvesting of horseshoe crabs.
- Protected migratory birds by requiring state-owned and leased buildings to turn off unnecessary outdoor lighting.
- Responded to the municipal solid waste crisis with new funding for facilities and mandatory food scrap diversion at colleges, hospitals and nursing homes.
- Provided additional funding to towns to deal with harmful chemicals like PFAS.
- Expanded eligibility for Microgrid and Resilience Loans – allowing the state to build more green buildings.