

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,

H Arzeno.

Hector Arzeno



### IN THIS LEGISLATIVE SESSION, WE FOCUSED ON SUPPORTING OUR SENIORS AND CHILDREN:

- We passed a law to help seniors safely remain in their homes as they age, and to improve the quality of care in the state's nursing homes.
- We created a framework for the Early Childhood Care and Education Fund in order to address the need for available and affordable childcare in the state, and to ensure that young children are on a path to lifelong success.
- We passed a bill to increase access to an enrollment in nutrition assistance programs for children and families, including WIC and SNAP.
- We voted to adopt the Nursing and Social Worker licensure compacts and to expand the telehealth services to ensure that all our residents have access to quality healthcare.



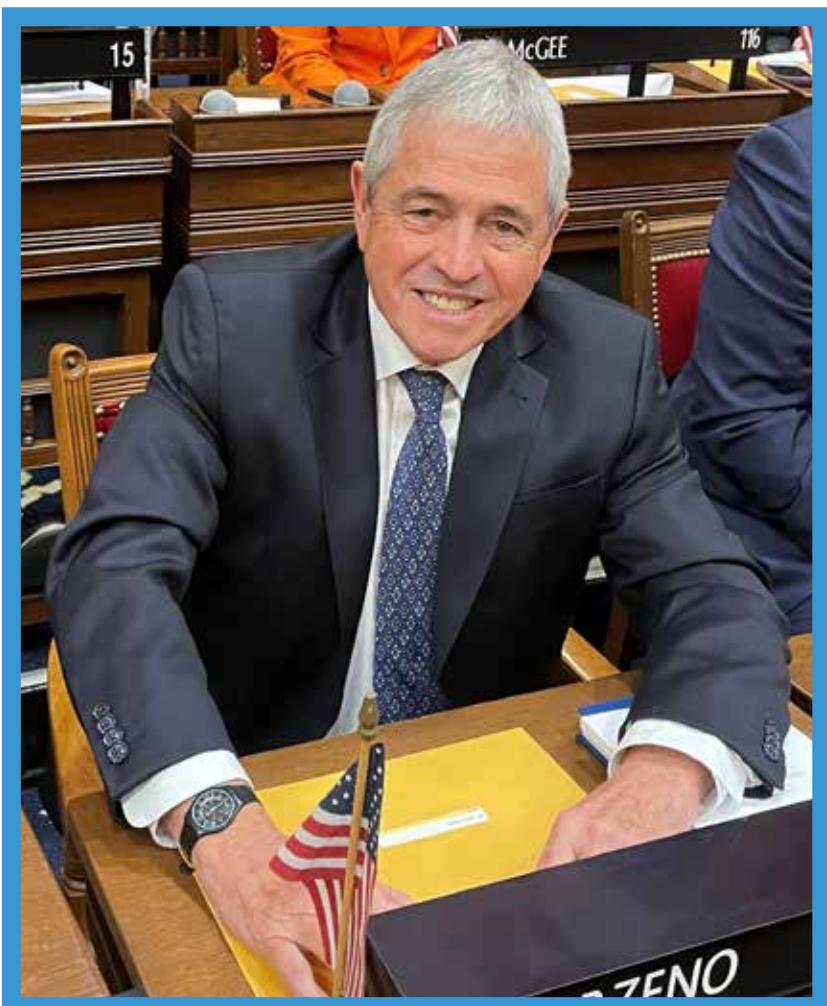
## CAPITOL UPDATE 24

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## STATE REPRESENTATIVE HECTOR ARZENO

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## CAPITOL UPDATE 2024

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE

## HECTOR ARZENO

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# STATE REPRESENTATIVE

# HECTOR ARZENO

## CAPITOL UPDATE 2024

### SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- Providing Quality Care for Seniors
- Maintaining Historic Tax Cuts
- Making Childcare More Affordable and Accessible
- Maintaining CT's Future Fiscal Integrity



#### PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT

- Banned numerous products containing dangerous PFAS chemicals
- Required better notice when herbicides are sprayed along railroads
- Increased hydropower going to our power grid and extended offshore wind procurement

#### IMPROVING CHILDCARE

- Invested \$21.8m into early childcare
- Expanded the childcare incubator program
- Passed legislation that pilots new childcare programming

#### INVESTING IN OUR SENIORS

- Prevented nursing homes from putting more than two patients in a single room
- Required nursing homes and retirement communities to provide at least 60- 90 days' notice of any fee increases and improved transparency around fees
- Expedited Medicaid coverage for home-based care as an alternative to more costly nursing home care
- Strengthened oversight of negligent nursing homes
- Required health insurance coverage for detecting coronary artery disease

#### SUPPORTING LOCAL SCHOOLS

- Required same day parental notification when a child hurts themselves or others
- Established the Education Mandate Review Advisory Council to review proposed and existing mandates on local Boards of Education
- Required the State Department of Education to provide school districts 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

#### IMPROVING HIGHER EDUCATION

- Expanded state-backed student loans to students under 18
- Invested in nonprofits that assist students with college and financial aid applications
- Expanded employer-based student loan repayment tax credits and reduced rates for state-backed loans for in-demand occupations



## 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**

## FUNDS SECURED FOR GREENWICH

### 2024:

- Glenville Corridor- \$6,500,000
- New Central Middle School: \$22,000,000
- Supporting our Public Library and our nonprofits helping our most vulnerable: \$750,000



Celebrating the reconstruction of the bridge at Camp Seton, thanks to state funds the Greenwich House delegation secured.