

Dear Neighbor,

It remains a privilege and honor to serve as your state representative. The 2024 legislative session is in the rearview mirror, and I wanted to take a moment to check in and share some highlights from the past several months.

We worked hard to deliver a budget that adheres to our fiscal guardrails while still providing hundreds of millions in more funding to our local schools, colleges and universities, and services for our most vulnerable residents. As part of our historic tax cuts, families of four who make \$50,000 or less annually **will pay no state income taxes**. This is another important step in making CT affordable for everyone.

We did it by working together - without the fighting you see in Washington.

I'd love to hear from you if you would like more details or have any questions on the initiatives addressed in this legislative update.

Sincerely,

2024 SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

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



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
ANDRE BAKER

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CAPITOL UPDATE 2024

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CAPITOL UPDATE 2024



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MAKING CONNECTICUT SENIORS A PRIORITY

- Expedited Medicaid coverage for home-based care as an alternative to more costly nursing home care.
- Required home care workers to wear photo-ID badges.
- Created a new registry system to connect patients to home care providers and created a dashboard to help navigate nursing home options.
- Created an incentive-based program to improve nursing home care in Connecticut. (PA 24-39)
- Required health insurance coverage for detecting coronary artery disease. (PA 24-19)

CONNECTICUT'S HEALTH AND WELLNESS

Putting patients first:

- Allowed pharmacists to give opioid disposal systems when dispensing opioids.
- Strengthened hospitals' defenses against cyberattacks.
- Banned paperwork and payment requirements for receiving critical ambulance rides. (PA 24-19)



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**

TAKING CARE OF OUR MOST VULNERABLE

- Protected domestic violence victims from being forced into debt by their abuser. (PA 24-77)

STRENGTHENING COURT OPERATIONS AND OTHER PROCESSES

- Extended the period, in certain circumstances, during which an alleged election law may be prosecuted in order to maintain the integrity of our election system. (PA 24-135)

PROTECTING CONSUMERS

- Approved new consumer protections for virtual currencies. (PA 24-146)

HOUSING INITIATIVES

- Incentivized towns to develop more multi-family housing.
- Required 45-day notice of rent increases.
- Streamlined the process for converting vacant nursing homes into housing.
- Prioritized surplus state-owned land to be used for affordable housing.
- Increased the value of state rental vouchers. (PA 24-143)

