

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

ANDRE BAKER

Dear Neighbor,

This winter, I had the pleasure of attending a visioning session at the East End NRZ Pop-Up Market & Café in the East End of Bridgeport, where families had the opportunity to sample different types of fruits and vegetables and learn how to make meals using these healthy alternatives. This area is considered a food desert because it lacks a full-service grocery store and access to fruits and vegetables.

The Bridgeport Coalition United to Reach Equity (CURE) is working to end the East End food desert. The project is designed to address many issues in the East End neighborhood such as access to healthy foods and job training. I encourage you to learn more about the events and activities that CURE offers.

I also wanted to share some important information on ways that we are working to improve the lives of our seniors, as well as help our state's small businesses.

Please feel free to contact me with any questions you may have.

Sincerely,



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STATE REPRESENTATIVE ANDRE BAKER

PROUDLY SERVING BRIDGEPORT

MAKING CT MORE AFFORDABLE FOR SENIORS

Many retirees living in Connecticut are struggling to keep up with the rising costs of living. Stretching a fixed income to cover day-to-day living, as well as the increased medical expenses that come with old age, often proves impossible. We have introduced HB 5587 to help ease the burden our seniors bear.

This bill will eliminate the state income tax on Social Security payments for residents 62 years of age and older. Connecticut is one of only thirteen states that taxes Social Security payments. It is time we catch up with the rest of the country.



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“ANGEL INVESTORS” PROGRAM

A successful company is nothing more than a group of people willing to invest in an idea. Most business owners have no trouble investing their time and effort, yet they sometimes struggle to find the financial backing required to get their ideas off the ground. That is why this year I am advocating for legislation that would allow accredited investors to consult and mentor prospective small business owners and contribute to a fund established to support the growth of small businesses.

SMALL BUSINESS HOTLINE

Running a small business is hard work. That’s why I am supporting a bill that creates a statewide information hotline providing prospective and existing small business owners with the support they need. Entrepreneurs have expressed frustration that resources and information are scattered across multiple state agencies. If a company wants to relocate to or expand in Connecticut, they will be able to call a central resource center at a single phone number.