



Dear Neighbor,

I'm so proud to share some highlights from our productive 2022 legislative session. Not only did we deliver \$650 million in tax cuts directed at families and small businesses while growing jobs and our economy, but we also made an historic investment in the mental health of our children. This state budget pays off millions in pension debt and continues to grow our record rainy day fund. That's not to say we aren't facing challenges. We know that inflation is hitting everyone's wallets, and housing prices are pricing many out of even modest homes. That's why I fought hard to provide you with relief by increasing the property tax credit, phasing out taxes on retirement income, creating a childcare rebate, cutting the gas tax, and more.

Throughout the session, I continued to assist constituents with whatever help they needed, whether by connecting them to the proper state agency or by advocating for an important cause. This is work that continues year-round, so please do not hesitate to reach out if I can help!

I hope you find this newsletter packed with useful information. It is my absolute pleasure to serve as your state representative.

All my best,

STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**AIMEE BERGER-GIRVALO**

PROUDLY SERVING RIDGEFIELD



**CAPITOL UPDATE 2022**

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**CAPITOL UPDATE 2022**

**FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
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## 2022 SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- Addressing Children's Mental Health Needs
- Cutting Taxes to Combat Historic Inflation
- Keeping CT Safe with Juvenile Justice Reform
- Making CT More Affordable for Residents
- Creating Environmentally Conscious Initiatives
- Maintaining CT's Future Fiscal Integrity
- Established an Office on Gun Violence Prevention
- Setting the Standard in Our Nation on Reproductive Rights and Protections

## GROWING CT'S ECONOMY

- Lowered the business tax rate for Unemployment Insurance, effectively making the federal loan repayment for the coming year on behalf of businesses
- Established JobsCT program – helping companies in target industries earn rebates against insurance premiums and state taxes for meeting job targets
- Made direct investments in community nonprofits
- Increased work opportunities for young adults
- Established student loan reimbursement program for in demand health care and mental health workers
- Provided parents and students with more occupational opportunities and helped schools partner with more local businesses

I VOTED TO  
CUT YOUR TAXES

OUR STATE BUDGET INCLUDES  
\$650 MILLION  
IN TAX RELIEF

- Creates a Child Tax Credit
- Cuts property taxes for retirees
- Extends the gas tax cut
- Ends pension and annuity tax
- Invests in healthcare workers



## PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT

- 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
- Required the installation of electric chargers at new state and commercial buildings while exempting electric charging stations from property tax assessments
- Supported developing carbon-neutral plans for new transportation projects
- Created new incentives for consumer and commercial electric vehicles
- Incentivized school districts to use electric school buses



## YOUR PRIORITIES

You told me what was most important to you; here's what we did to answer your calls:

### Responding to the Kids' Mental Health Crisis

- Provided grants to local schools to hire more support staff, including in the areas of mental health: social workers, psychologists, and counselors
- Created new walk-ins for mental health emergencies
- Expanded 24/7 emergency mental health response

### Improving Access to Quality Health Care

- Expanded screenings for breast and cervical cancer
- Ensured more psychiatric treatment beds
- Expanded eligibility to perform abortion care to include advanced nurse practitioners, nurse midwives, and physician assistants

### Education & Early Childhood Initiatives

- Established new reimbursement grant to assist schools in upgrading their HVAC systems, and ensured regular inspections and reporting on their operation
- Increased pay to childcare workers to attract and retain more educators
- Expanded successful Birth to Three Program