



Dear Neighbor,

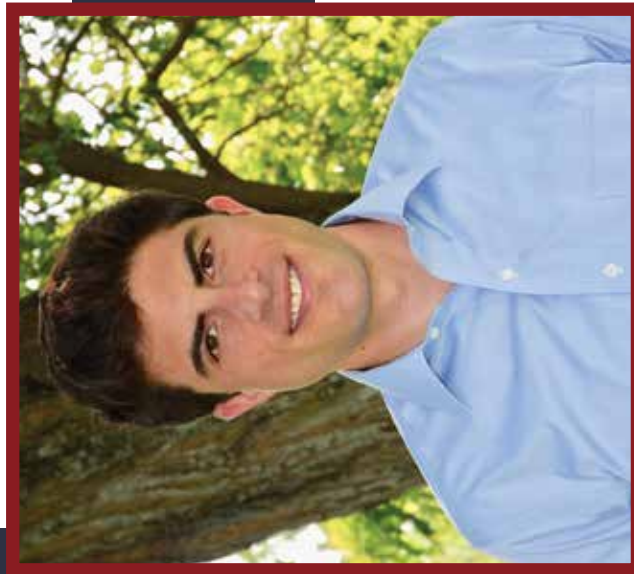
This was a historic legislative session. We passed **more than \$650 million in tax cuts** aimed primarily to benefit middle- and lower-income families – the largest tax relief in our state’s history. We made historic **investments in the mental health** of our children. We made a historic commitment to **growing jobs and our economy**. Our state budget **clears billions in pension debt off the books ahead of schedule** and further strengthens our record rainy day fund, all while investing in Stamford and Darien, their **schools, mental health, and public safety**. And we **continue maintaining the fiscal discipline** that put us in the position to do these things in the first place.

We also made **historic investments in Stamford’s schools**. Our budget includes **not only more than \$200 million for a new Westhill High School, but also a 60-percent reimbursement rate for all Stamford school-construction projects for the next 25 years**. This will translate into **hundreds of millions of dollars of assistance** to ensure Stamford students and educators have healthy, state-of-the-art facilities.

There are challenges. Inflation is impacting everyone. That’s why I fought hard to provide you with relief: **increasing the property tax credit, phasing out taxes on retirement income, creating a childcare rebate, cutting the gas tax** and more.

It’s a tremendous honor to serve as your state representative. As always, please never hesitate to reach out to me on any matter.

Sincerely,



STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**MATT BLUMENTHAL**

**PROUDLY SERVING STAMFORD AND DARIEN**

PRSRRT STD  
U.S. POSTAGE  
PAID  
HARTFORD, CT  
Permit No. 3937

**CAPITOL  
UPDATE 2022**

Representative Blumenthal  
Legislative Office Building, Room 2504  
Hartford, CT 06106-1591



**CAPITOL  
UPDATE 2022**

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**MATT BLUMENTHAL**

**PROUDLY SERVING STAMFORD & DARIEN**

- [Matt.Blumenthal@cga.ct.gov](mailto:Matt.Blumenthal@cga.ct.gov)
- [@MattBlumenthalCT](https://www.facebook.com/MattBlumenthalCT)
- [@Matt\\_Blumenthal](https://twitter.com/Matt_Blumenthal)
- [@MattBlumenthalCT](https://www.instagram.com/MattBlumenthalCT)





## 2022 SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- Protecting Reproductive Rights
- Providing Tax Relief to Combat Inflation
- Taking Action to Increase Public Safety
- Expanding Absentee-Ballot Access
- Addressing Children’s Mental Health
- \$200+ Million for Stamford School Construction

### HISTORIC SCHOOL FUNDING FOR STAMFORD

I was honored, along with my Stamford colleagues, to help secure unprecedented school funding for Stamford. The state budget contained provisions mandating that the new Westhill High School construction project be reimbursed at a rate of 80 percent, and that all other projects be reimbursed at a rate of 60 percent for the next 25 years. This translates to:

- **More than \$206 million of state funding for the new Westhill High School;** and
- **Hundreds of millions of dollars** for school-construction projects throughout the district in the years to come.

This historic state funding will help ensure that Stamford students and educators can learn and work in healthy, state-of-the-art facilities, while protecting Stamford residents from unfair property-tax increases.

# I VOTED TO CUT YOUR TAXES

OUR STATE BUDGET INCLUDES

## \$650 MILLION IN TAX RELIEF

- ✔ Creates a Child Tax Rebate
- ✔ Cuts property taxes for retirees
- ✔ Extends the gas tax cut
- ✔ Extends free bus service
- ✔ Ends pension and annuity tax
- ✔ Invests in healthcare workers



### IMPROVING ACCESS TO HEALTHCARE

I was honored to support legislation that:

- **Expands mandatory insurance coverage** for screenings for **breast and cervical cancer**;
- Allows **patients to get more medications** adjusted with fewer in-person visits;
- Appropriates \$12M available for **tobacco prevention and cessation**;
- Increases funding to our **specialty-care hospitals**; and
- Continues our expanded access to **telehealth services**.



### DEFENDING YOUR RIGHTS

I was proud to co-author and lead passage of the **Reproductive Freedom Defense Act**, nation-leading legislation **protecting and expanding access to reproductive healthcare services** – including contraception, legal abortion, and gender-affirming care – **as Roe v. Wade has now been overturned at the federal level.**

We also passed my legislation to expand **absentee-ballot access** to commuters, healthcare providers, and people who take care of a sick or disabled loved one.

### ACTING TO PROTECT PUBLIC SAFETY

I was honored to support legislation that:

- **Confronts auto theft** by expanding law-enforcement tools and resources, funding **state and local auto-theft task forces**, and **attacking catalytic-converter theft.**
- **Addresses juvenile crime** by investing in Youth Service Bureaus, Juvenile Review Boards, and streamlining criminal-justice processes to ensure juveniles do not become repeat or habitual offenders.
- **Tackles gun violence** by creating an **Office of Gun Violence Prevention**, and **funding state and local gun-violence task forces.**