



Dear Neighbor,

It is such an honor and privilege to serve as your state representative. I'm proud of what we accomplished this session.

We invested in vital priorities—including increased funding for **higher and early-childhood education, mental health, and nonprofits**—while preserving the **historic middle-income tax cuts** we passed last year. We obtained more than **\$36 million in state funding for Stamford**, and we did all of this while **pre-paying down over six billion dollars in future pension obligations and building our Rainy Day Fund**.

As **House Chairman of the Government Administration & Elections Committee and Co-Chair of the Reproductive Rights Caucus**, I was proud to lead on some of our most important legislation, including **protecting elections workers**, increasing **elections security and transparency**, and keeping **foreign money out of our elections**, all while increasing funding for reproductive healthcare.

You can find more details inside this newsletter. As always, I'd love to hear your questions or comments.

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
MATT BLUMENTHAL

PROUDLY SERVING STAMFORD

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**CAPITOL
UPDATE 2024**

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**CAPITOL
UPDATE 2024**



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OUR BUDGET PROTECTS

HISTORIC 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**

FUNDING FOR STAMFORD (FY 2025)

- \$36,095,184 in total state funding
- \$19,908,251 in Education funding
- \$7,667,412 in PILOT funding
- \$2,000,000 in one-time ARPA Allocation
- \$1,846,049 in Supplemental Revenue Sharing
- \$1,293,022 in funding for Stamford roads

PROTECTING DEMOCRACY

I was proud to author and lead passage of measures that:

- **Protect election workers** from harassment, threats, and doxing
- **Ban foreign spending** in CT elections
- Implement strong new measures to ensure **election security and transparency**

HOLDING UTILITIES ACCOUNTABLE

I co-authored and helped lead passage of legislation reforming the Siting Council, including:

- Ensuring Siting Council members' **independence from utilities**
- Requiring **increased public notice and cooperation** with affected municipalities and property owners
- Requiring the utilities submit more **robust, detailed, and transparent financial and engineering analysis** for proposed projects and reasonable alternatives
- Requiring the Council to perform **cost-benefit analyses** for projects and reasonable alternatives, as well as **evaluate their cost-benefit related to ratepayer costs** and **long-term CT plans of development**
- Increased powers to **ensure utilities comply** with Council orders and decisions



GROWING OUR ECONOMY

- **Expanded employer-based student loan repayment tax credits** and reduced rates for state-backed loans for in-demand occupations
- **Expanded the small business loan program** in lower-income communities and enabled more out-of-state businesses to expand into CT
- Facilitated **industry experts teaching in our tech schools**

IMPROVING CHILDCARE:

- Increased coordination to raise private funds
- Piloted new childcare programming
- Expanded the childcare incubator program

SUPPORTING SENIORS & VETERANS

- **Enacted property-tax exemption** for veterans with total disability
- **Expanded Military Relief Fund grants** for families experiencing hardship
- Created **a new home-care and nursing-home registry and dashboard system** to help connect patients to best options
- Created an incentive-based **program to improve nursing home care** in CT
- **Increased transparency on and restricted fee increases** in nursing homes and retirement communities
- **Strengthened oversight and accountability** to prevent negligence in nursing homes