

IMPORTANT INFORMATION

- Connecticut Legal Assistance..... 1-800-413-7796
- Consumer Protection..... 1-800-842-2649
- Unclaimed Property Hotline 1-800-833-7318
- CT Tax Department 1-860-297-5962
- Veterans' Benefits and Information ... 1-800-827-1000
- ConnPACE..... 1-800-423-5026
- Medicare Hotline 1-800-633-4227
- CT Partnership for Long-Term Care... 1-800-547-3443
- Infoline 211
- CT Department of Veterans Affairs.... 1-800-550-0000
- CHOICES 1-800-944-9422
- Healthcare Advocate1-866-HMO-4446
- DSS Elder Services 1-866-218-6631
- Dept. of Insurance Consumer Affairs 1-800-203-3447
- Plainville Senior Center860-747-5728
- Bristol Senior Center.....860-584-7895
- New Britain Senior Center.....860-826-3553

Provided by Representative Betty Boukus
1-800-842-8267

Betty Boukus • Representing Plainville, Bristol, New Britain



Betty Boukus
State Representative

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State Representative

Betty Boukus

**22nd Assembly District
Serving Plainville
Bristol, New Britain**



**Health Care
Seniors and
Family Issues**



Senior Driving Insurance Discount

Drivers aged 60 and up are now eligible for an automobile insurance policy premium discount after successfully completing a Department of Motor Vehicles approved accident prevention course. It is a great opportunity to stay safe and save money. For more information, contact the Department of Motor Vehicles.

Duties of Unlicensed Assistive Personnel in Residential Homes

Unlicensed personnel who work as assistants in residential care homes may now perform limited health-related activities for residents. They may obtain and record a resident's blood pressure, temperature, and weight. They may also assist diabetic residents in using glucose monitors for documenting blood glucose levels.

Alzheimer's Programs

Unlicensed and unregistered staff who provide direct care to patients in Alzheimer's special care programs must be given a minimum of one hour of Alzheimer's and dementia specific training every year. The State-wide Respite Care Program is also now open for people with Alzheimer's disease who receive Medicaid.

Conservators and Probate Appeals

A conservator is a person given the legal power to be responsible for someone incapable of caring for himself or herself. New changes help protect those who are under the care of, or being considered for, a conservator. Among these are that probate courts must now record proceedings on appointing and setting the powers of conservators, and all appeals hearings must be on record. The powers granted to the conservator must be the fewest that are necessary to meet the person's needs. A conservator must follow certain requirements, including ascertaining the person's views, and making decisions that conform to the person's reasonable and informed preferences. A conserved person may also petition the probate court to end the conservatorship at any time.

Administration of the Flu and Pneumonia Vaccines

To help prevent the spread of flu or pneumonia, we have worked to increase access to vaccinations. Nurses employed by licensed home healthcare or homemaker-home health agencies can now provide these vaccines to patients in their homes without obtaining a physician's order for each shot. Trained nurses have been running flu clinics outside the home for years, and this new law makes it easier for these professionals to keep us healthy.



Long Term Care Insurance Policies

Lower insurance premiums are possible for those who wish to enroll in a new Long Term Care Policy. This new policy permits an individual to underwrite their long-term care costs for a period of up to two years while being protected by a long-term care insurance policy afterwards. An irrevocable trust fund must be in place and of a size deemed sufficient to cover costs of care before the long-term care policy protection begins.

Connecticut Homecare Option Program

To enable more seniors to live at home and delay the need for costly nursing home care, we have created the Connecticut Homecare Option Program. This program allows participants to make deposits into a Homecare Trust Fund account. Interest earned on fund accounts will be exempt from state income tax. The participant or a designated beneficiary can later withdraw funds to pay for qualified home care expenses. Any unspent account funds will become part of a beneficiary's estate when he or she dies.

Additionally, to help encourage home care options, seniors can now hire their own personal care assistance attendants directly instead of going through a home health care agency.