



The 2024 legislative session is in the books, and I am proud of what we accomplished.

My goal for the session was to ensure we invested in our priorities while preserving tax cuts for families and seniors.

By passing our fiscal stabilization plan we protected the largest and second-largest tax cuts in state history and ensured more retirement income would be tax-exempt. We also filled our priority buckets by increasing funding for higher education, early childhood, mental health, and nonprofits.

This newsletter has more details.

Enjoy,

State Representative Kevin Brown



NEW LAWS IN CT: A YEAR IN REVIEW

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE KEVIN BROWN

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CAPITOL UPDATE 2024

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NEW LAWS IN CONNECTICUT 2024

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE KEVIN BROWN

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DEBATING BIG ISSUES

The House took up major policy initiatives like eldercare, childcare and early child education, childhood nutrition, the climate crisis, paid time off for workers, street takeovers, and protecting health workers and more:

- Fiscal Stabilization and Allocating Federal Dollars - HB 5523
- Protecting Health Care Workers - SB 1
- Generational elder care reform - HB 5001
- Childcare and Early Childhood education - HB 5002
- Childhood nutrition - HB 5003
- Climate Crisis - HB 5004
- Paid Time Off - HB 5005
- Street Takeovers - HB 5413
- Property Tax Exemption for Disabled Veterans - HB 5491

MAKING CT SENIORS A PRIORITY

- Expedited Medicaid coverage for home-based care as an alternative to more costly nursing home care
- Required home care workers to wear photo-ID badges
- Created a new registry system to connect patients to home care providers and created a dashboard to help navigate nursing home options
- Prevented nursing homes from putting more than two patients in a single room
- Required nursing homes and retirement communities to provide at least 60-90 days' notice of any fee increases and improved transparency around fees
- Created an incentive-based program to improve nursing home care in CT
- Fast-tracked nursing home transfers and receiverships when homes are closing
- Required health insurance coverage for detecting coronary artery disease
- Strengthened oversight of negligent nursing homes

GROWING OUR ECONOMY

Growing Our Teacher Workforce

- Cut certification red tape to make licensing faster and enable teachers to teach more subjects across more grades
- Expanded eligibility in the fast-track certification program
- Made it easier for industry experts to teach in our tech schools

Supporting Workers with Paid Sick Days

Supported middle-class and working families by granting most full and part-time workers access to Paid Sick Days over a three-year period:

- Use for yourself or to care for a loved one
- Up to 40 hours per year
- Roll over time to the following year

A FISCAL PLAN TO PROTECT TAX CUTS AND EDUCATION FUNDS

I fought to protect programs you care about:

- Investments in public education
- New supports for the IDD community
- Expanded commitment to our higher education system
- Increased funding for nonprofits

OUR BIPARTISAN BUDGET INCLUDES

PROTECTING 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