

## Major Issues: 2008

*A quick look at what we're  
working on this legislative session*

- ✓ **Health Care**
- ✓ **Worker's Benefits**
- ✓ **Toxins in Toys**
- ✓ **Nursing Home Care**
- ✓ **Teaching Support**
- ✓ **Environment**

*Dear Neighbor -*

*We're hard at work in the 2008 legislative session, and I wanted to give you an update on some of the things we're concentrating on. If you have any questions about these issues or would like to give me suggestions about others you think aren't mentioned here, please don't hesitate to contact me:  
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*Larry B.*

## STATE REPRESENTATIVE LARRY B. BUTLER



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# 2008 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

## ISSUES WE'RE FOCUSING ON

### Reducing Property Taxes

- More state **money for Waterbury**
- Work to **increase property tax refunds** on state income tax returns
- Reduce city costs by adding municipal employees to the state health care plan

### Training for New Teachers

- Improve state teacher preparation and evaluation programs
- Develop **quality mentoring programs** between experienced and new teachers



### Improving Nursing Homes

- Work to improve the **quality of care** and safety of patients in our nursing homes
- **Increase minimum staffing** levels so that direct nursing care per patient reaches national recommended levels

### Protecting Our Children

- Prevent the sale of children's toys and products that contain chemicals of high concern
  - Establish regulations on chemicals known to cause harm to reproduction or development
  - Work to establish a framework within the state to be better able to **notify parents of toy recalls**



### Saving Our Environment

- Work to **reduce greenhouse gas emissions** to decrease the amount of carbon dioxide in our atmosphere
- Increase financing for the Clean Water Fund to combat high nitrogen levels in Long Island Sound and contaminants in our waterways



### Expanding Health Care

- **Expand the state's health care plan** to include municipal employees and small businesses
  - Improve and expand HUSKY to cover more of Connecticut's uninsured
  - Work to **provide better care** for all residents



### Helping Our Workers

- Increase the **state minimum wage**
- Require employers to provide their employees with **paid sick leave**
- Provide protection and care for firefighters and other public safety workers regarding specific diseases



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