

SUPPORTING OUR SENIORS

- 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
- Prevented nursing homes from putting more than two patients in a single room
- Strengthened oversight of negligent nursing homes
- Required nursing homes and retirement communities to provide at least 60-90 days' notice of any fee increases and improved transparency around fees



It is a privilege and honor to serve as your state representative. The 2024 legislative session is over, and I wanted to take a moment to check in and share some highlights from the past several months. I'm proud to have worked on a budget that delivers historic tax cuts for working people and record funding for students, families, and our most vulnerable residents, while paying down our long-term debt.

Although we delivered tax relief, I remain a firm believer that the working people of CT need real systemic tax reform. Our property tax system is regressive and onerous, and our income tax system is skewed to benefit the ultra-wealthy at the expense of working people. This is why I am proud to say I was the lead introducer of the most ambitious tax reform package in state history, HB 5147, which would have increased taxes on the wealthy while making huge investments in childcare, education, and tax relief for working families. Unfortunately, it did not pass, but I will continue in this fight.

I'd love to hear from you if you would like more details or have any questions on any of the initiatives addressed in this legislative update.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Brandon Chafee".

NEW LAWS IN CT: A YEAR IN REVIEW

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE BRANDON CHAFEE



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CAPITOL UPDATE 24





CAPITOL UPDATE 2024

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE

BRANDON CHAFEE

PROUDLY SERVING MIDDLETOWN

CONTACT ME ANY TIME:

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE BRANDON CHAFEE

CAPITOL UPDATE 2024



IMPROVING CONNECTICUT'S FUTURE

- Protecting historic tax cuts and Rainy Day Fund
- Cut more taxes on retirement income
- Protecting funding for schools
- Providing quality care for seniors
- Protecting democracy with updated voting laws
- Investing in growing healthcare workforce

OUR BUDGET INCLUDES

PROTECTION OF TAX CUTS & INVESTMENTS IN FAMILIES

- ✓ \$600 million middle class tax cut
- ✓ Increase **Earned Income Tax Credit** for lower income workers
- ✓ Expand tax cuts on retirement income to **benefit seniors**

INVESTS:

- ✓ \$23.859 million in Education Cost Sharing funding for Middletown Public Schools
- ✓ \$160 million for higher education
- ✓ \$50 million for nonprofits
- ✓ \$21.8 million for early childcare
- ✓ \$24 million for statewide mental health



MAJOR INITIATIVES AFFECTING MIDDLETOWN

NEARLY \$19 MILLION IN NEW FUNDING SECURED FOR MIDDLETOWN

- \$375k for a new fire department training facility
- Nearly \$668k to keep the DCF office in Middletown open
- \$300k for new sanitation facilities at our town parks
- \$3.5 million in reimbursement for MHS construction
- \$3.285 million to rehab the Middlesex Chamber of Commerce building
- \$900k for mental health and substance abuse services
- \$9.8 million for additional projects

SUPPORTING LOCAL AND HIGHER EDUCATION

- Expanded state-backed student loans to students under 18
- Modified the automatic admissions program so students will be automatically admitted to certain public and private universities based on GPA, not class rank
- Preserved our historic increase in local public education funding
- Invested in nonprofits that assist students with college and financial aid applications

DELIVERING FOR WORKERS, CHILDREN, AND FAMILIES

- Supported middle-class and working families by granting most full- and part-time workers access to Paid Sick Days over a three-year period
- Provided help to classroom paraeducators to pay for their health insurance
- New supports for the IDD community
- Streamlined the process for families to access nutrition programs

WORKING TOWARDS AFFORDABLE HOUSING

- Incentivized towns to develop more multi-family housing
- Required 45-days' notice of rent increases
- Streamlined the process for converting vacant nursing homes into housing
- Prioritized surplus state-owned land to be used for affordable housing
- Increased the value of state rental vouchers