

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

THERESA CONROY

PROUDLY SERVING THE 105TH DISTRICT



MUNICIPALITIES

Many municipal leaders have testified before the legislature that state mandates have become a considerable burden on their budgets and for taxpayers. Some mandates not only cost towns significant revenue, they also take a substantial amount of time. The state legislature listened and removed some mandates that municipalities found to be non-essential.

Municipalities may now report their delinquent taxes to the Department of Motor Vehicles at any point during the month, rather than the current requirement to do so within the first two weeks of the month.

The state was also able to make valuable investments and provide additional funding to our municipalities **without raising taxes**. Cities and towns will see an additional \$70 million in funding for education costs, Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT), and other costs. By saving our municipalities money, we enable them to provide tax relief and make local capital investments.



Follow me on:

[Facebook.com/StateRepresentativeTheresaConroy](https://www.facebook.com/StateRepresentativeTheresaConroy)

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

THERESA CONROY

PROUDLY SERVING THE 105TH DISTRICT / SEYMOUR • BEACON FALLS • DERBY

CAPITOL UPDATE 2014

PRSR STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HARTFORD, CT
Permit No. 3937



STATE REPRESENTATIVE

THERESA CONROY



Legislative Office Building

Hartford, CT 06106-1591

Capitol: 800-842-8267

www.housedems.ct.gov/Conroy



[Facebook.com/StateRepresentativeTheresaConroy](https://www.facebook.com/StateRepresentativeTheresaConroy)

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

THERESA CONROY

PROUDLY SERVING THE 105TH DISTRICT / SEYMOUR • BEACON FALLS • DERBY

Capitol: 800-842-8267 | theresa.conroy@cga.ct.gov



SENIORS

Most seniors would prefer to live in their own homes for as long as possible. We have taken steps to help make this happen. This year we created a \$6 million grant program for home modifications and other assistive technology that will allow people to remain in their homes longer.

The program is open to seniors and individuals with disabilities who are at risk of being unable to live independently without modifications.

We also required the Commission on Aging to recognize communities that are implementing livable community initiatives, which include affordable and accessible housing, community and social services, planning and zoning regulations, walkability, and transportation related infrastructure. In Seymour, our Livable Communities Forum led to the Livable Communities Committee and a true commitment to making our town a welcoming place for people in all stages of life.



Seymour resident Henry Kornacki
Livable Community Forum



ENERGY ISSUES

Tree Trimming - Homeowners will now have more say over whether trees on their property can be cut down or trimmed by utility companies. The burden will rest with utility companies who will need to demonstrate the need to trim or remove trees they believe threaten the electricity supply. The company will now be required to obtain written consent from property owners for the removal or cutting of trees on private property, and provide notice to property owners abutting public rights of way.

Consumer Protection - This year we added much-needed transparency to an issue that we heard about from many state residents regarding predatory energy providers and confusing energy bills. Energy suppliers will now be prohibited from offering consumers short-term “teaser” energy contracts with low rates, then switching to much higher variable rate contracts within weeks. Termination fees would be capped at \$50 under the law, and a consumer could switch back to the standard rate charged by UI or CL&P within 72 hours. More transparent billing practices and faster switching, so a customer can fire a company quickly and easily, along with prohibitions of coercive and deceptive sales practices, will empower consumers.

VETERANS

This session we worked to streamline the state licensing process for our job-seeking veterans. Connecticut veterans can now apply their military training toward occupational licenses, including public safety positions and a variety of trades. In addition, college credits can be awarded for speciality training and apprenticeship credits applied to specific trades.



Robert Lazzaro
2014 Comcast Leaders and Achievers Scholarship Winner

GO BACK TO GET AHEAD

Students who dropped out of college before earning a bachelor’s degree will be eligible to take three free courses at a Connecticut state university or community college. This initiative is part of the governor’s “Transform CSU” plan aimed at increasing enrollment at the state’s higher education institutions while also meeting the workforce demands of businesses in the state. The plan includes facilities upgrades that will connect classrooms with 21st century technology, and give our students the tools and skills to compete in the increasingly competitive workforce.

