



Hello Friends and Neighbors,

The 2026 legislative session focused on protecting Connecticut residents from the funding cuts and program changes made at the federal level, as well as other important issues like free and fair elections, standing up for families, funding our schools, and the state budget.

We made historic investments in police, fire, EMS, veterans, teachers and health care workers. Voters demanded better access to absentee ballots, and we ensured their voices were heard. This state budget delivers increased state funding to every community to help support local town budgets.

This newsletter provides a breakdown of the legislation and key policy initiatives approved during the 2026 session. While I am proud of what we accomplished, there is always more work to do. I look forward to continuing that conversation with you, hearing your perspectives, and working together to address the challenges facing our community. It is an honor and privilege to serve as your state representative.

Regards,

Savet Constantine

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
SAVET CONSTANTINE

PROUDLY SERVING NEW CANAAN, RIDGEFIELD, WILTON

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UPDATE 2026**

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A STATE BUDGET THAT INVESTS IN YOUR PRIORITIES

- Allocated a historic \$190 Million directly to towns for education aid
- Invested an additional \$100 Million in direct town aid to alleviate local tax increases
- Increased our Budget Reserve Fund to over \$4.3 Billion
- Prepaid an additional \$1.1 Billion in pension liability for total additional payments of \$10 Billion since 2021, saving us \$880 Million in future interest

SUPPORTING SENIORS & FAMILIES

- \$60K grant to Stay at Home in Wilton to assist seniors age safely in their homes
- \$50K grant to Wilton Youth Council to address youth loneliness and disconnection
- Established responsible AI guardrails to protect children online, address harmful chatbot interactions, limit late-night notifications, and ensure greater accountability for algorithm-driven content while supporting innovation
- Expanded sales tax-free week to include clothing, shoes and backpacks under \$300 and made basic school supplies tax-free
- Created a family caregiver tax credit for residents caring for a loved one

MAKING SURE OUR 2026 ELECTIONS ARE FREE AND FAIR

- Modernized our absentee ballot laws and vote counting procedures
- Set up a system to check the status of an individual's absentee ballot online
- Allowed the state to conduct centralized recounts using modern vote counting machines



INVESTING IN EDUCATION

- Dedicated \$12 Million to expand free school breakfasts across the state
- Allocated \$320 Million for The Early Childhood Endowment Fund
- Expanded grants for successful special education programs and launched literacy interventions and concentrated tutoring

