

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
MICHAEL D'AGOSTINO

91st District

Dear Neighbor,

After several very challenging weeks of implementing Governor Lamont's Stay Safe, Stay Home order, Connecticut is finally beginning to see COVID-19 hospitalization rates slow and start to drop. The curve has flattened. Of course, we must still be vigilant when it comes to social distancing, safe practices and continuing to increase our testing capacity. This is our new "normal."

I want thank everyone so far for their cooperation with public-health measures, staying informed and the kindness they have shown others. We have seen numerous examples of volunteers answering the call to help their community such as the story of a Hamden High School student who found a way to manufacture PPE Equipment using a 3D printer at his school. It's also important to thank the true heroes of this public health emergency; our healthcare workers, first responders and other essential workers who have been on the front lines.

In this mailer you will find some information and assistance available to you during this time and the road to recovery.

If you have any questions regarding COVID-19, assistance or state policies, please contact me by email at Michael.DAgostino@cga.ct.gov or by phone at 860-240-8568.

Please stay safe and well.



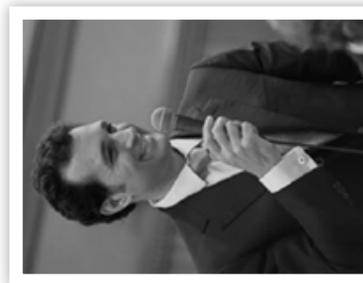
State Representative Michael D'Agostino
91st District

Sign up for my e-newsletter for COVID-19 information
and other updates on my website at
www.housedems.ct.gov/DAGostino

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE
MICHAEL D'AGOSTINO

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Phone: 860-240-8568
e-mail: Michael.DAgostino@cga.ct.gov
Legislative Office Building, 300 Capitol Avenue
Hartford, CT 06106
www.housedems.ct.gov/DAGostino

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MICHAEL D'AGOSTINO

91st District



COVID-19 INFORMATION

Legislative Office Building, Room 5008
Hartford, CT 06106



Phone: Capitol 800-842-8267



E-mail: Michael.DAgostino@cga.ct.gov



Web: www.housedems.ct.gov/DAGostino

State Representative Michael D'Agostino

FOR THE LATEST ON STATE RESPONSE EFFORTS, DIAL 2-1-1 OR VISIT [CT.GOV/CORONAVIRUS](https://www.ct.gov/coronavirus)

WHAT IS CORONAVIRUS/COVID-19?

The Governor signed an Executive Order that encourages people to stay in their homes unless running essential errands and closes all businesses not deemed essential until further notice to slow the spread of COVID-19.

FILING FOR UNEMPLOYMENT

Please visit ct.dol.state.us to access an FAQ sheet on the rights of employees and employers as well as the form to file for unemployment. Under the CARES Act passed by Congress, the new Pandemic Unemployment Insurance (PUI) includes an extra \$600 per week, which will begin going out the week of April 27th and will be retroactive to March 29th filings. The Act also makes eligible for PUI benefits those who are self-employed, independent contractors, and gig-economy workers. They can begin submitting applications starting April 30.

FEDERAL STIMULUS

The IRS has been sending Economic Impact Payments of up to \$1,200 for individuals earning less than \$75,000 and \$2,400 for couples earning less than \$150,000 and \$500 for dependents. Those who don't earn enough to file a tax return or collect social security are still eligible. If you haven't received your payment please check this website for a status update and to register your information: www.irs.gov/coronavirus/economic-impact-payments.

HEALTH SERVICES

A huge part of the recovery from this Pandemic will be through increased testing. Just recently a new Rapid Testing Site center opened at the former Gateway Community College campus in New Haven. Anyone with symptoms can register at: www.cvs.com/minuteclinic/covid-19-testing. Another new testing site can also be found at the Cornell Scott Hill Health Center at 226 Dixwell Avenue, between 8:30 am and 4:30 pm. Pre-authorization from a doctor is still needed. You can also visit [CDC.gov](https://www.cdc.gov) for a list of symptoms or call the Quinnipiac Valley Health District with questions at 203-248-4528.

COVID-19 RESOURCES AND INFORMATION

TAX EXTENSIONS

The Connecticut Department of Revenue Services has extended filing and payment deadlines for personal income tax returns to July 15, 2020. This includes quarterly estimated income tax payments. There are also extensions until May 31st for sales and use tax payments made by businesses for March and April. The Town Council also voted to adopt both options in the Governor's order that allows towns to defer their property tax deadline to Oct. 1st and lower the interest rate on taxes for 3 months after the July tax deadline.

BUSINESS ASSISTANCE

The state and federal government offer a number of programs to support small businesses which include no interest loans and grants to help meet costs such as payroll, rent, utilities, insurance and other expenses. For more information regarding these programs, please call the DECD small business hotline at 860-500-2333 or visit ct.gov/decd. The Small Business Administration (SBA) can also be reached at 1-800-659-2955.

HOW CAN I HELP?

CTResponds is the State of Connecticut's web-based volunteer management system which also includes the Medical Reserve Corps. This online volunteer system for the Emergency System is for health professionals and other interested volunteers to help communities during this emergency. If you are interested in volunteering please register here: ctresponds.ct.gov.

SOCIAL SERVICES

DSS has been updating their COVID-19 specific information for assistance with Medicaid/HUSKY Health, SNAP or other DSS programs that can be found here: <https://portal.ct.gov/DSS/Communications/DSS-Response-to-COVID-19>.

HOUSING ASSISTANCE

Please Dial 2-1-1 and press #3 then #4 if you are in a housing emergency. Participating financial institutions are now offering mortgage payment forbearances of up to 90 days, allowing homeowners to reduce or delay mortgage payments.

The Governor has also prohibited eviction notices and late fees for non-payment of rent until July 1st and granted a 60-day grace period for April and May. If you are having difficulty with any of these issues and need to know your rights a group of non-profit Connecticut legal aid organizations has also posted helpful information at www.CTLawHelp.org/coronavirus.

FOOD AND NUTRITION

Hamden Public Schools

HPS provides free Grab-and-Go meals from Monday through Friday, between the hours of 9AM and 12PM at the following locations Church Street School, Ridge Hill School, Hamden Middle School, Hamden High School and M. L. Keefe Center.

For more information visit www.hamden.org/coronavirus/mealdistribution information or call 203-230-1010.

Meals on Wheels

For Life Bridge Community Services call 203-752-9919 or email seniorfoodservices@lifebridgect.org.

Meals for Seniors

Call Hamden Elderly Services at 203-287-2547 or 203-287-2691 to apply for the Elderly Nutrition Program.

Hamden Food Bank at Keefe Community Center (11 Pine St. Hamden)

Call Community Services Coordinator Y'Isiah Lopes at 203-562-5129 ext. 1110.

Soup Kitchen and Food Pantry Services

<http://hamden.com/704/Free-Meal-Sites-in-Hamden>