

# IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

Emergency

911

West Haven Police Department  
(Non-Emergency)

(203) 937-3900

West Haven Senior Center

(203) 937-3509

Allingtown Senior Center

(203) 937-3509

Medicare

(800) 633-4227

Center For Medicare Advocacy

(800) 262-4414

Department Of Social Services

(855) 626-6632

United Way Infoline  
(General Assistance)

Dial 2-1-1 or visit [www.211ct.org](http://www.211ct.org)

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

## STEVE DARGAN

REPRESENTING WEST HAVEN | 115TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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



Legislative Office Building  
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

Capitol: 860-240-8585 | 1-800-842-8267

[Stephen.Dargan@cga.ct.gov](mailto:Stephen.Dargan@cga.ct.gov)

[www.housedems.ct.gov/Dargan](http://www.housedems.ct.gov/Dargan)

Dear Neighbor,

It is my honor to serve you as your state representative and I will continue to work diligently to address key issues that affect our quality of life.

To help keep you both informed and engaged in the legislative process, I wanted to update you on policy initiatives and changes made at the state level for seniors in Connecticut. This special newsletter contains helpful resources and contact information that may be of use to you.

If you have a question or concern, or if I can support you in any way, feel free to call my office anytime at 1-800-842-8267 or email me at [Stephen.Dargan@cga.ct.gov](mailto:Stephen.Dargan@cga.ct.gov).

Thank you for your continued support,

Steve Dargan



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## HELP WITH YOUR ENERGY BILL

Most gas and electric utility companies participate in Forgiveness or Winter Protection Programs, helping low-income residents avoid shutoffs, and a Matching Payment Program to help low-income customers maintain year-round services while paying down delinquent balances. For more information, contact your utility company.

**United Illuminating: 203-499-5973 - Southern Connecticut Gas: 1-800-659-8299**



## FREE CONSUMER LEGAL SERVICES FOR SENIORS

The Consumer Law Project for Elders (a project of Connecticut Legal Services, Inc.) provides free legal assistance to Connecticut residents 60 or older who have questions about consumer rights, debt or collection problems, bills for items never purchased, identity theft, bankruptcy, and unfair and undisclosed loan terms. Connecticut Law Project staff may represent people or refer someone to a lawyer who specializes in areas that address their problems. If you need assistance, call 800-296-1467.

## CONNECTICUT HOME CARE PROGRAM FOR ELDERS

Many seniors are blessed with family members who can provide needed care at home, rather than at a nursing home. Providing that care can be burdensome to family members and costly. The Connecticut Home Care Program for Elders can help individuals receive home care services based on financial means and functional dependence. For information, brochures, and applications, call the Alternative Care unit at the Connecticut Department of Social Services at 800-445-5394.



## VARIABLE ELECTRIC RATES

I was proud to vote in favor of Connecticut becoming the first in the nation to protect residents from unfair increasing electric rates. Electricity providers, offering an initial low introductory rate that increases rapidly afterwards hurts those who signed on for the low benefit in the first place. The protections enacted require variable rate suppliers to give their customers a 60-day notice before the end of their contracts. Suppliers cannot charge a termination or early cancellation fee and must allow people the ability to switch to standard service for up to 72 hours after giving notice. We also set up a process to further investigate and take measures to completely eliminate variable electric rates when your contract expires. If you have an issue with your electric bill or have any questions, call: 1-800-382-4586.  
(PA 15-90)

## REVIEW OF HEALTH CARE COVERAGE DENIALS

When your insurance company denies coverage, sometimes it's because they don't have sufficient information. Last year we required insurance companies to offer your doctors an opportunity for a conference with a clinical peer employed by your health carrier when they issue a denial. This clinical peer will be a physician or health care professional who is in a similar specialty to the person who reviews your medical services. The goal of this conference is a peer to peer conversation where your provider makes the case for coverage. This law will help you when the "red tape" of bureaucracy delays your health needs.  
(PA 15-139)



## PRESCRIPTIONS NOW AVAILABLE IN 90-DAY QUANTITIES

Illness or having difficult getting to a pharmacy can be hard on someone who needs to refill a monthly prescription. This is also a challenge in winter when it's tougher to go out but you need your medications. That is why we passed legislation that will allow your pharmacist to refill your prescription for up to 90 days. While co-pays and insurance may still apply, this law will allow you to have a three month supply for those months it's too cold to go outside.  
(PA 15-116)