

Dear Neighbor,

It is an honor and privilege to serve as your State Representative. The 2023 legislative session is now in the rearview mirror, and I want 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 and increased funding for students, families, and our most vulnerable residents while paying down our long-term debt, including an additional \$2.072 billion in unfunded future pension liability.

Most importantly, we did it by working together – without gimmicks or partisan politics. We prioritized education, supported non-profits, and invested in public safety without the fighting you see in Washington.

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,

HISTORIC FUNDING FOR LOCAL SCHOOLS

Invests over \$240 million in public education for the 2024-25 school year:

- Capped tuition payments for local districts on choice programs resulting in \$11.4m in new funding for Open Choice
- \$164m in new funding to local boards of education
- \$9.3m in new funding for charter schools
- \$53.3m in new funding for magnet schools
- \$7.2m in new funding for VoAg programs



NEW LAWS FOR 2023-24

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE LUCY DATHAN

PROUDLY SERVING NORWALK & NEW CANAAN

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CAPITOL UPDATE 2023

Representative Lucy Dathan
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YEAR IN REVIEW FOR NORWALK & NEW CANAAN

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE

LUCY DATHAN

CONTACT ME ANY TIME:

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STATE REP. LUCY DATHAN'S CAPITOL UPDATE

LARGEST TAX CUT IN STATE HISTORY



SUPPORTING SENIORS

- **Memory Care:** Expanded eligibility for seniors to participate in adult day services (serving those with early onset dementia)
- **Medicaid Expansion:** Increased Medicaid coverage for services like primary healthcare, physical therapy, and meals
- **Fraud Protection:** Allowed banks to freeze transactions when they suspect a senior is being scammed
- **Eliminated Even More Taxes on Retirement:**
 - Increased phase out of tax on IRA income for those making \$75K or less annually (\$100K for joint)
 - Extended exemptions to remove the income cliff, by phasing-out tax on income up to \$100K or \$150K for joint filers by increasing the deduction between 2.5% and 100% depending on your income

OUR BIPARTISAN BUDGET INCLUDES

HISTORIC TAX CUTS

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

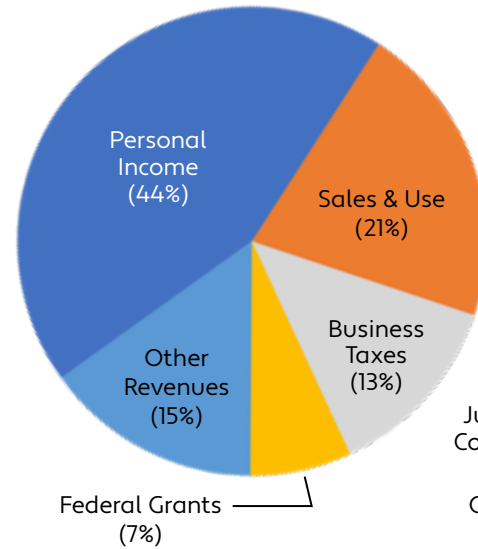
INVESTS:

- ✓ More funding for K-12 education
- ✓ More funding for higher education
- ✓ More funding for nonprofits
- ✓ More funding for childcare
- ✓ **MORE FUNDING FOR NORWALK & NEW CANAAN**

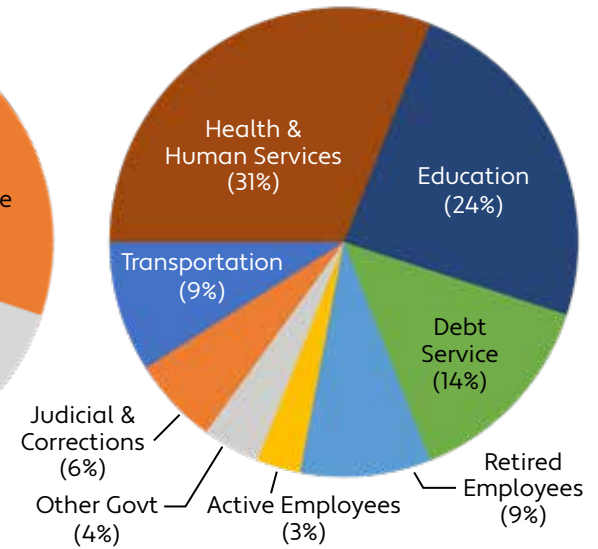
CONTINUING FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE BUDGETING

- Deposits \$3.3 billion into Rainy Day Fund – keeping our credit ratings high and preparing us for any potential economic downturn
- Keeps us under the constitutional spending cap in both years following the financial guardrails
- Eliminates our use of federal COVID relief money to balance our budget
- Reduces the state income tax by lowering the 5.0% rate to 4.5% and the 3.0% rate to 2.0% for the income year 2024. The benefits will be capped at \$150,000 for single filers and \$300,000 for joint filers
- Benefits one million tax filers with the rate cuts – nearly 60% of all filers

SOURCES OF STATE REVENUE
(\$25.42B)



WHERE YOUR TAX DOLLARS GO
(\$25.11B)



CLIMATE CHANGE & PROTECTING THE ENVIRONMENT

- Updated permitting process to protect locations that have historically dealt with high levels of pollution
- Protected migratory birds by requiring state-owned and leased buildings to turn off unnecessary outdoor lighting
- Responded to the municipal solid waste crisis with new funding for facilities and mandatory food scrap diversion programs
- Provided additional funding for PFAS remediation

CONNECTICUT GUN CONTROL REFORMS

- Restricted open carry
- Banned ghost guns and closed existing loopholes
- Limited monthly handgun purchases to 3 per 30-day period
- Required safe storage and trigger locks
- Expanded our assault weapon ban
- Updated training requirements
- Strengthened penalties for failure to report lost or stolen guns

SUPPORTING WORKERS & SMALL BUSINESSES

- Streamlined statutory business reporting requirements
- Supported CT farm wineries by allowing them to open up retail outlets
- Protected workers whose health benefits are terminated during labor disputes
- Established tax credit for businesses that expand childcare for employees
- Facilitated bidding process for smaller contractors on state projects
- Expanded JobsCT to promote job creation in our state