

Dear Neighbor,

The 2024 legislative session is in the books and I am proud of what we accomplished by working together on joint bi-partisan issues including education, supporting seniors, and protecting our social safety net. Over 95% of our legislation is done on a bipartisan basis, and I believe that when we work together we can get great policy passed that benefits all of us.

My goal for the session was to ensure we invested in our priorities while preserving tax cuts for families and seniors.

By passing our fiscal stabilization plan, we protected the largest and second largest tax cuts in state history and ensured more retirement income would be tax-exempt. We also filled our priority buckets by increasing funding for higher education, early childhood, mental health, and nonprofits.

This newsletter includes more detail and my legislative survey can be found on my website (in the contact section) or the QR code below. I'd love to hear from you if you would like more information or have any questions on any of the initiatives addressed in this legislative update.

Best Regards,



BIG WINS FOR NORWALK & NEW CANAAN

- \$21.5M HVAC Upgrades for Norwalk Public Schools
- \$5M for Norwalk Transit and Microtransit Projects
- \$3.44M for the Norwalk Housing Authority to replace 54 outdated HVAC units with 55 energy efficient units
- \$3M streetscape improvements aligning with the completed mobility study
- \$2M grant-in-aid for the New Canaan Playhouse Theater
- \$300K expansion and renovations to the Music Theater of Connecticut
- \$269K for the Side by Side Regional Charter School



NEW LAWS FOR 2024

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE LUCY DATHAN

PROUDLY SERVING NORWALK & NEW CANAAN

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CAPITOL UPDATE 2024

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YEAR IN REVIEW FOR NORWALK & NEW CANAAN

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE

LUCY DATHAN

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STATE REP. LUCY DATHAN'S CAPITOL UPDATE

LARGEST TAX CUT IN STATE HISTORY



STRATEGIC FISCALLY RESPONSIBLE BUDGET

- Increasing statutory level of our “Rainy Day Fund” from 15% of the net general fund appropriations to 18%, totaling \$3.7B in 2024.
- Utilizing the surplus of the Rainy Day Fund to pay down an additional \$1B of long term liabilities in 2024, making over \$7.6B in additional pension contributions since 2020.

THE 2024 BUDGET PROCESS

- Normally in even years, we make budget adjustments, but this year, we did not “open the state budget” as this would have risked surrendering tax cuts as well as gains for schools and nonprofits.
- We focused our efforts in utilizing every penny of federal dollars and preserving the programs and services we agreed to in our 2023 budget cycle.

OUR BIPARTISAN BUDGET INCLUDES PROTECTING TAX CUTS

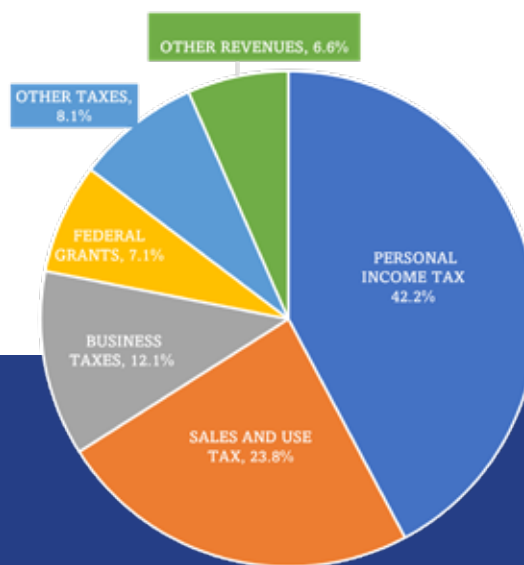
WE PASSED A BIPARTISAN BIENNIUM BUDGET THAT INCLUDES HISTORIC TAX CUTS AND INVESTMENTS FOR OUR COMMUNITY:

- Largest income tax cut in state history
- Biggest investment in public education ever
- New supports for the IDD community
- Expansion of debt-free community college
- Protected safety net programs

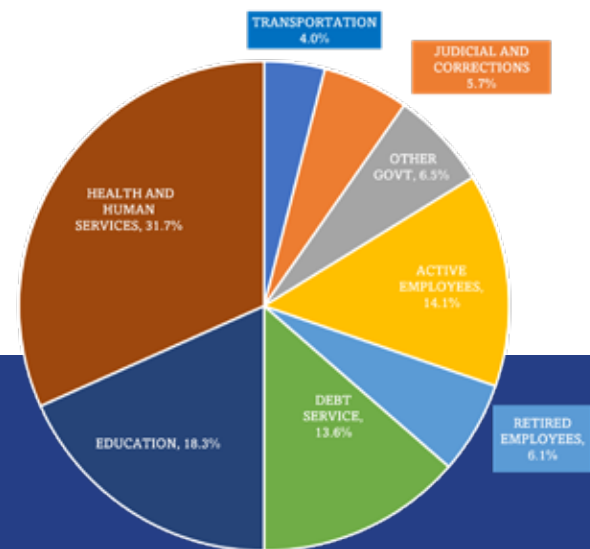
THIS SESSION WE PROTECTED THESE TAX CUTS AND INVESTED MILLIONS OF FEDERAL FUNDS IN:

- Higher Education - \$160M with a path to grow to \$200M
- Early Childcare - \$21.8M
- Mental Health - \$24M
- Nonprofits - \$50M

Sources of State revenue (\$26.4B)



Where your tax dollars go (\$26.0B)



SUPPORTING SENIORS

- Expedited Medicaid coverage for home-based care as an alternative to more costly nursing home care
- Required home care workers to wear photo-ID badges
- Created a new registry system to connect patients to home care providers and created a dashboard to help navigate nursing home options
- Improved nursing and retirement communities fee transparency by increasing notice periods
- Created an incentive-based program to improve nursing home care in CT

GROWING OUR ECONOMY

- Expanded the small business loan program in lower-income communities and enabled more out-of-state businesses to expand into CT
- Made it easier for out-of-state nurses & social workers to move to and practice in CT
- Cut certification red tape for experienced teachers and industry experts
- Supported middle-class and working families by granting most full and part-time workers access to Paid Sick Days
- Improved Childcare by increased coordination and expanding learning programs

FOCUSING ON CT'S HEALTH AND WELLNESS

- Made it easier for people on co-pay only health plans to access body scans and physical and occupational therapy
- Covered victims of sexual assault under Paid Family and Medical Leave
- Improved child and family nutrition by streamlining access to nutrition programs and incentivized farmers market participation
- Allowed telehealth to continue for in-state and out-of-state residents
- Expanded health insurance coverage for detecting coronary artery disease