

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
MIKE DEMICCO

Dear Neighbor,

The 2025 session of the Connecticut General Assembly saw significant achievements for the state of Connecticut, and for Farmington in particular. The biennial state budget increases Farmington’s total statutory formula aid by more than \$2 million in each of the next two fiscal years, owing primarily to an increase in Education Cost Sharing (ECS) funding from \$1.7 million to \$3.7 million in FY 26 and FY 27 (Total state aid to Farmington will be \$10.1 million in each of these years). In addition, Farmington recently received a Small-Town Economic Assistance Program (STEAP) grant for \$1 million, to be used for improvements to recreation facilities at Tunxis Mead Park.

The budget respects the legislatively-imposed spending cap, and honors both the revenue and bond caps that were established several years ago.

The state budget increases funding for nonprofit organizations who provide services to vulnerable populations, raises Medicaid reimbursement rates for the first time in almost two decades, and allocates \$80 million for special education “excess cost” expenses, which will benefit all towns in Connecticut.

The budget increases funding for group homes and nursing homes, funds urgent crisis centers (to support children’s mental health), establishes a refundable tax credit to assist working families, and establishes a tax credit for employers who contribute to their employees’ CHET (CT Higher Education Trust) accounts.

It is an honor to represent the residents of Farmington and Unionville in the General Assembly. I am always available to listen to your concerns, benefit from your ideas, and offer assistance. Please feel free to contact me directly at 860-240-8585, or mike.demicco@cga.ct.gov

Best,

Mike Demicco



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MIKE DEMICCO

PROUDLY SERVING FARMINGTON & UNIONVILLE



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AGING

Public Act 25-17 prohibits nursing homes and assisted living facilities from discriminating against residents based on race, color, religious creed, sex, gender identity or expression, sexual orientation, marital status, age, national origin, ancestry, disability (intellectual, mental, learning, physical), veteran status, HIV status, or status as a victim of domestic violence.

CHILDREN

PA 25-93 establishes the Early Childhood Education Endowment to fund early childhood program and expansion costs, and sets limits on the amount that families (within income parameters) must pay for child care. Also, PA 25-168 requires school and public library boards to adopt policies ensuring that library materials are evaluated and made accessible according to state anti-discrimination laws.

FIREARM LIABILITY

PA 25-43 allows civil lawsuits against firearm industry members who fail to enforce "reasonable controls" regarding sales and marketing, or who fail to comply with certain restrictions.

FIREFIGHTERS

PA 25-4 expands benefits to firefighters who have certain cancers. Generally, an eligible firefighter's employer is required to pay the benefits, and then be reimbursed from the state's "firefighters cancer relief account."

SPECIAL EDUCATION

PA 25-67 creates a new per-student grant for all school districts (based on the number of special education students in the district) and establishes a process for setting the rates that SPED service providers can charge to school boards for services they provide.

FARMINGTON IN THE STATE BUDGET

Total State Aid for Farmington:
FISCAL YEAR 2025: \$7.9 MILLION
FISCAL YEAR 2026: \$10.1 MILLION
FISCAL YEAR 2027: \$10.1 MILLION

ELECTRIC RATES

PA 25-173 allows the state to issue bonds (i.e. "borrow money") totaling \$300 million over FY 26 and FY 27 to reduce the "public benefits" portion of customer electric bills, and to partially fund the electric vehicle charger program.

CONSUMER PROTECTION

PA 25-44 requires electronic or appliance manufacturers to make available to the public their repair manuals, functional parts, and tools (i.e. "right to repair"). It also enables customers to stop "automatic renewals" or "continuous services" through a website, email, or telephone.

ENVIRONMENT

PA 25-33 sets greenhouse gas (GHG) reduction goals for state agencies; creates a CT "Clean Economy Council" to advise on policies to strengthen the state's climate mitigation, clean energy, resilience, and sustainability programs; and gives tax rebate preference for investments in environmentally sustainable practices.

HOUSING, HOME PURCHASING

PA 25-49 creates a "first-time homebuyer" savings program that allows tax benefits for contributing to specialized savings accounts. It also requires towns with a population of at least 15,000 to create a fair rent commission (or to join a joint or regional commission).

HEALTH INSURANCE PARITY

PA 25-94 requires health insurance companies to certify their compliance with mental health parity laws and prohibits insurance companies from requiring "step therapy" for prescription drugs used to treat certain diseases.

HAZARDOUS WASTE REMEDIATION

PA 25-6 transitions Connecticut from a "property transfer-based" approach regarding hazardous waste remediation to a "release-based" approach, under recently adopted release-based cleanup regulations.

REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH SERVICES

PA 25-28 allows minors to give consent for pregnancy and pregnancy prevention-related care (counseling, prenatal care, pain management) without parental consent or notification, and it prohibits providers from sharing this information with parents without the minor's consent.

VETERAN PROPERTY TAX EXEMPTIONS

PA 25-2 clarifies the property tax exemption for "100% permanently and totally disabled veterans," and allows towns to expand the exemption to include up to 2 acres of a dwelling lot.

TRANSPORTATION, TOWING & WORKER SAFETY

PA 25-159 increases the fines for certain violations of the "move over" law and endangerment of a highway worker. PA 25-55 makes several changes to the laws on towing and vehicle disposal. It sets additional restrictions for towing from private property; it requires towing companies to release vehicles within four hours of a person's request; it requires the Department of Motor Vehicles to develop a "towing bill of rights;" and it extends the minimum time that garage owners must hold a vehicle before they can sell it.

MOTOR VEHICLE VIOLATIONS

PA 25-19 enhances penalties for drivers exceeding 100 miles per hour, and makes it easier for police officers to stop a motor vehicle for cannabis violations, as well as license plate, headlight, or equipment violations.