

# GROWING OUR ECONOMY

- Expanded the small business loan program in lower-income communities and enabled more out-of-state businesses to expand into CT (PA 24-36)
- Established a trade commission with Ireland (PA 24-60)
- Created a fund to improve and manage our small harbors (PA 24-48)
- Made it easier for out-of-state nurses and social workers to move to and practice in CT (PA 24-83 and PA 24-30)



Dear neighbor,

The 2024 legislative session is in the books, and I am proud of what we accomplished.

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

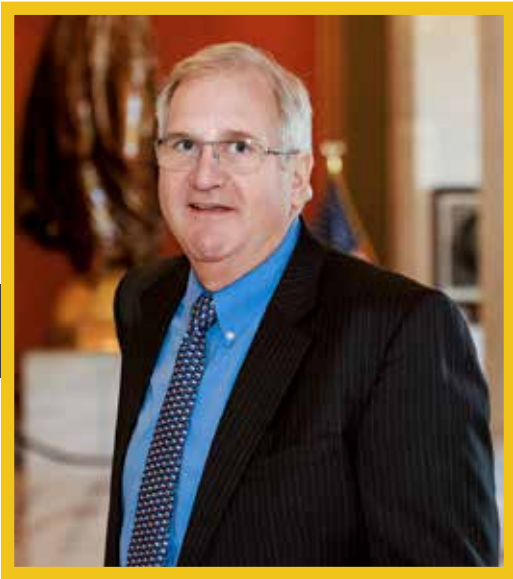
By passing our fiscal stabilization plan we protected the largest and second largest tax cuts in state history and ensured more retirement income would be tax-exempt. We also filled our priority buckets by increasing funding for higher education, early childhood, mental health, and nonprofits.

This newsletter has more details.

Enjoy,

# NEW LAWS IN CT: A YEAR IN REVIEW

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE KEITH DENNING



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# CAPITOL UPDATE 24

# CAPITOL UPDATE 2024

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE

# KEITH DENNING

PROUDLY SERVING WILTON, NEW CANAAN AND RIDGEFIELD

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# STATE REPRESENTATIVE KEITH DENNING

## CAPITOL UPDATE 2024



### 2024 SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- Providing Quality Care for Seniors
- Maintaining Historic Tax Cuts
- Making Childcare More Affordable and Accessible
- Maintaining CT's Future Fiscal Integrity



Julien Novog-Desrayaud, Press Aide, Rep Denning, Megan Villanova, Constituent Engagement Coordinator

### 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**
- **Expanded debt-free community college**
- **Protected safety net programs**

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

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



### MAJOR INITIATIVES AFFECTING WILTON, NEW CANAAN AND RIDGEFIELD

#### SUPPORTING LOCAL SCHOOLS

- Established the Education Mandate Review Advisory Council to review proposed and existing mandates on local boards of education (PA 24-45)
- Required same day parental notification when a child hurts themselves or others (PA 24-93)
- Capped the amount of money all districts pay to send kids out of district - saving millions of dollars for local schools (PA 24-81)
- Required the State Department of Education to provide school districts an estimate of their next year's funding by the end of the current year, to ensure better budgeting (PA 24-81)
- Provided help to classroom paraeducators to pay for their health insurance (PA 24-81)

#### HOLDING UTILITY COMPANIES ACCOUNTABLE (HB 5507)

- Required the Siting Council to hear from municipalities before granting a certificate for a transmission line project
- Gave municipalities the ability to share, with the council, location preferences for a transmission line project
- Increased the municipal participation fee for utility companies
- Increased the maximum amount a municipality can receive from the municipal participation account

#### KEEPING OUR COMMUNITY SAFE

- Improved the eligibility process for getting benefits to the families of first responders who died in the line of duty (PA 24-16)
- Established a Fallen Officer Fund to provide families of police officers who died in the line of duty with cash assistance and health care coverage (PA 24-27)
- Required more thorough testing of firearms in criminal investigations with the use of the federal ballistic database (PA 24-32)

#### PROTECTING OUR DEMOCRACY

- Banned foreign nationals from making campaign contributions in CT or spending money on behalf of candidates (SB 253)
- Required video monitoring of ballot drop boxes (PA 24-148)
- Made it a crime to harass election workers (PA 24-148)