

State Representative  
**PATRICIA DILLON**

The governor signs Rep. Dillon's "Madoff" legislation



**Rep. Dillon cuts the ribbon**

EXPANSION OF HISPANIC SERVICES, BIOSCIENCE LABS

Officials at Connecticut Mental Health Center asked Rep. Dillon to cut the ribbon on its new wing. She played a key role in securing funds for the facility to improve Hispanic services and create jobs in its new laboratories.



Dr. Selby Jacobs, director of CMHC, asked Rep. Pat Dillon to cut the ribbon, saying, "I consider her the patron saint of this project."



Rep. Dillon in Monitor Square

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State Representative  
**Patricia Dillon**

Proudly Serving New Haven



**CAPITOL NEWS 2009**

Dear friend and neighbor,

This year was unusual: an historic election, and dramatic shifts in the economy.

I am proud to report that legislative oversight continued as the economy affected the budget. Connecticut families gained substantial protections.

I had three goals: first, to **preserve** the gains we have made; second, to **protect** the vulnerable; and third, to **plan** for the future. This report to you identifies the results of the work towards those three goals.

At every point, my efforts were guided by letters, calls, and emails from you. Some of you came to Hartford to testify. Others invited me to community meetings to tell your stories. At one barbecue, an activist showed me how important one program is to his neighborhood. Everywhere I went, I learned.

Although the legislature did respond to your concerns, our work is not done. A year ago the stability of our financial system was in doubt. This year, too many of us have lost income or are seeking jobs. Some were cut back, some were laid off, and many young people face an uncertain future.

Next year's work will be a challenge. We need to plan for the future, create jobs, and support each other in the community in the meantime.

Our future challenges will require humility and teamwork.

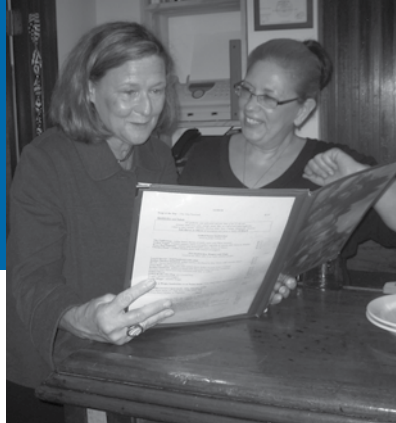
Thank you for all you have done to build our community.

Patricia Dillon  
92nd District





West River Peace Day



Rep. Dillon at Village Cafe Marrakech



# State Representative Patricia Dillon

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## Preserving Our Gains

### SINKING HOUSES:

The Rell budget removed bond authorization for the repair of homes in the Beverly Hills section of Westville. We restored authorization. The next step is convincing the governor to release the dollars.

### DWIGHT SCHOOL:

When Dwight School was sold to Amistad Academy, activists fought back to make sure Dwight children could be part of the school's future. As a result, the community room, built with bond dollars I fought for, will be accessible to the neighborhood. In addition, I authored a state law with Senator Harp that permits Amistad to set aside slots for future Dwight students.

### HISTORIC HOME TAX CREDIT:

The Rell budget suspended a tax credit to restore our neighborhoods. Thanks to your activism, we discovered that almost half of those dollars go to New Haven zip codes. Losing that program would affect New Haven neighborhoods, and lose jobs. We restored the program.



Open Studios at Erector Square

### AID TO NEW HAVEN:

We feared that aid to New Haven would be cut dramatically. Instead state dollars will be stable.

### AID TO NON PROFITS:

The Rell budget slashed or wiped out funding for several New Haven nonprofits. Although our budget restored funding, future cuts may be in store. Many groups are actively raising funds in the community to maintain services. They will need our support if the governor targets them in future action.



Rep. Dillon with New Haven Commission on Substance Abuse

## Protecting the Vulnerable

### MADOFF BILL:

Because of gaps in the system exposed by the Madoff scheme, I authored legislation that expands the power of state prosecutors to punish swindlers. Effective this year, the state has the power to seize the assets of those convicted of securities fraud. In addition, the legislation authorized a study of the feasibility of setting up a fund for financial victims.

PA 09-193 / HB 6339 - EFFECTIVE: 10.01.09

### FUNDING FOR LEGAL AID:

IOLTA, the fund that finances legal services for the poor suffered losses because of the economy. The legislature provided needed funds for legal aid through court fees.

PA 09-152 / SB 1157 - EFFECTIVE: 07.01.09

### AFFORDABLE ELDERLY HOMECARE

Seniors will be able to remain in their own homes with expanded access to affordable home care. In addition, we expanded access to personal care assistants.

PA 09-64 / SB 814 - EFFECTIVE: 04.01.10

### HEALTH CARE FOR STEPCHILDREN

Requires health insurance policies to provide the same benefits to stepchildren as biological children.

PA 09-124 / HB 5433 - EFFECTIVE: UPON PASSAGE

### WESTVILLE NEIGHBOR WINS "GENIUS AWARD"

*Slips and falls reduce the ability of seniors to live independently, and they also increase hospital costs.*

*Dr. Mary Tinetti's model to reduce injuries has been adopted in many states and countries. The MacArthur Foundation granted her a "genius award" for her groundbreaking work.*

*Congratulations, and thank you!*



## Planning for the Future

### EXPANDING ACCESS TO HEALTH INSURANCE

The Sustinet plan establishes a framework for expanding health coverage to more people. It will allow Connecticut to participate in federal health reforms.

### ROUTE 34 LAND TRANSFER

The city of New Haven has planned to use the route 34 corridor for future development. However, that land was owned by the state, and the Department of Transportation testified against a bill granting the land to the city. After negotiation, a compromise bill transferred the land to the taxpayers of New Haven.

### REGIONAL COOPERATION

Connecticut is one of only three states with no county government. This year, we built a framework for towns to begin to work together.

In the future, chief elected officials of two or more municipalities in the same federal economic development district may form agreements to promote regional economic development and share the new real and personal property tax revenue. Such agreements would include at least three municipal and three educational cooperative programs.

PA 09-231 / HB 6585 - EFFECTIVE: 10.01.09

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### EDUCATION FOR OUR CHILDREN'S FUTURE

Closing the education achievement gap for our children takes parent, teacher, and community engagement. But state government plays a role. This year, we began by establishing new teaching certificates, permits, and standards. Future teachers will be required to complete training in state professional teaching standards, including evidenced-based and standards-based instruction, and evidence-based classroom and behavior management.

Two measures target New Haven students.

One permits some Dwight students to participate in the new Amistad Academy.

Another affects Cooperative Arts and Humanities Magnet High School. We

established a three-year, renewable adjunct instructor permit allowing a person with

specialized training, experience, or expertise in the arts to teach in the Cooperative Arts and Humanities Magnet High School for up to 15 classroom instructional hours per week.

PA 09-1 / HB 6901 - EFFECTIVE 07.01.09



Memory Legacy Reception for Holocaust Memorial, SCSU