



## NEW HAVEN LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

We are working hard this year to reduce costs to cities and towns, make sure your tax dollars are spent well, get you the information you need, and improve the safety of those who cannot protect themselves. For example, victims of domestic violence and children at risk from the poor economy will benefit, and we helped towns save dollars through prescription drug purchasing. Contact me with questions about these issues or other concerns.



STATE REPRESENTATIVE *of the* CONNECTICUT GENERAL ASSEMBLY

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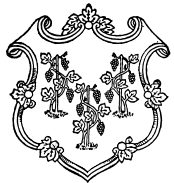
# PATRICIA DILLON

**ASSISTANT MAJORITY WHIP**

Serving New Haven | 92nd Assembly District

Legislative Office Building, Room 4019  
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

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State Representative

# PATRICIA DILLON

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## CHILDREN IN THE RECESSION

*Connecticut Acts - First In Nation*

The legislature adopted the first state legislation targeting the needs of children affected by the economy. The bill addresses hunger, housing, and health needs.

## INFORMATION YOU CAN USE

Because they are losing income, many people face chronic hunger, and many also want to help. So last year, I mailed you a list of food pantries and soup kitchens so that you can donate, volunteer, or seek assistance.

But neighbors noticed that the list was incomplete, and alerted me. We discovered that the state Department of Social Services - whose list we used - has not updated their website for a long long time, and people are not getting information they need. As a result, I created a Facebook page called Serving New Haven, with a more complete list of food resources. Since the hours of some pantries do change, if you spot any errors, please let me know.

## STRENGTHENING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE LAWS

The state has an obligation to ensure that victims of domestic violence are receiving the help they need. We passed a three-part legislative package that takes a comprehensive approach to dealing with family violence in the areas of judicial and criminal justice, housing and human services, and education. The changes are the most sweeping reforms to domestic violence laws in Connecticut in the past 25 years and include GPS monitoring for the highest risk domestic violence offenders; improvement of the enforcement of protective orders; and the creation of three additional domestic violence court dockets.

## TOWNS SAVE ON HEALTH CARE

The legislature passed a law that will lower prescription drug costs for Connecticut's towns. The bill gives municipalities the ability to buy prescription drugs through the state employee plan. By taking advantage of the bargaining power, low administrative costs and substantial discounts negotiated by the large state employee pool, municipalities will see substantial savings in health care costs.

State Representative

## PATRICIA DILLON

### INFORMATION FOR NEW HAVEN

To receive more information on any of the following issues, fill out this coupon and mail it to me, e-mail or call my office. Make sure to give your name and mailing address and indicate which issues you're interested in.

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