



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The 2024 legislative session came to an end in May, and I am proud of all that we accomplished. Our goals were to ensure that we invested in our priorities while preserving tax cuts for families and seniors. By passing our fiscal stabilization plan, we protected the largest tax cut in state history and ensured more retirement income would be tax-exempt. We also prioritized and increased funding for mental health, early childhood, higher education, and nonprofits.

It remains an honor and a privilege to serve as your state representative. I'd like to personally express my deep felt thanks and appreciation to all of you who have reached out with your thoughts, prayers and condolences for my family and me during what has been a very challenging time with the passing of my beloved husband, Earl.

Thank you all so much for the faith you have put in me to continue to work on your behalf, and please feel free to reach out if I can ever be of assistance to you or your family.

Sincerely,

2024 SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

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



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
TAMMY EXUM

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**CAPITOL
UPDATE 2024**

Representative Tammy Exum
Legislative Office Building, Room 4100
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

**CAPITOL
UPDATE 2024**



FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE
TAMMY EXUM
PROUDLY SERVING WEST HARTFORD AND AVON

- 860-240-8585
- Tammy.Exum@cga.ct.gov
- housedems.ct.gov/Exum
- facebook.com/StateRepExum



PROTECTING TAX CUTS

WE PROTECTED A BIPARTISAN BIENNIUM BUDGET THAT INCLUDES HISTORIC TAX CUTS AND INVESTMENTS FOR OUR COMMUNITY.

- LARGEST INCOME TAX CUT in state history
- Exempted even more retirement income from state taxes
- Record Rainy Day Fund
- Paid down generations of pension debt
- Biggest investment in public education ever
- Expansion of debt free community college

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

- Mental Health - \$24 million (Including Children's Mental Health, a top priority of mine that I fought for as Appropriations Committee vice chair)
- Early Childcare - \$21.8 million
- Nonprofits that provide valuable state services - \$50 million
- Higher Education - \$160 million

FUNDING FOR THE 19TH DISTRICT

West Hartford and Avon are expected to receive a total of over **\$70 million** in state aid for FY 24 and FY 25. This is an increase of over **\$6.6 million** to help fund our schools and roads.

- West Hartford was allocated funding for its Vision Zero Action Plan for pedestrian and traffic safety
- Avon was approved to receive funding for improvements to the Farmington Canal Heritage Trail

FOCUS ON MENTAL HEALTH

This session, a top priority of mine was following through on my promise toward addressing **Children's Behavioral Health** and implementation of HB 5001. I chaired the committee, and co-authored the legislation, that created the transformative mental health law in 2022. As a result, we are dedicating **\$10 million** from the Federal ARPA funding bill we passed to go toward services and our continued work through the Transforming Children's Behavioral (TCB) Health Policy and Planning Committee.

CORONARY CALCIUM SCANS

While I'd never heard of a coronary calcium scan prior to my husband's death, I am now aware of it and how it can save lives. I never want anyone to experience what my family and I are going through, so I feel that it's important to **share, inform and educate about Coronary Calcium Scans**. I provided testimony and I am proud to have been a lead co-sponsor in support of SB 1, our major healthcare reform bill. There is a provision I endorsed that requires certain insurance policies to cover coronary calcium scans, which is a quick scan of the heart that looks for calcium deposits in the arteries. After the sudden and tragic passing of my husband Earl, it was discovered by a medical examiner that a coronary calcium scan could have helped to save his life. The importance of this bill helps patients understand the existence of this test and now also provides insurance coverage, which **can and will save lives**.



EDUCATION

- Cut certification red tape to make licensing faster, and allowed teachers to teach more subjects across more grades
- Created the Early Childhood Care and Education Fund to maximize public and private investments
- Invested in teachers, assistant teachers, and paraeducators in state-funded school readiness programs and childcare programs

SENIORS

- Made it easier for seniors to age in place, increased community-based services, and grants to assist seniors with home repairs
- Created a nursing home database to connect seniors with quality care
- Established oversight to prevent abuse and provided for nursing homes to improve care

LEGISLATIVE NEWSBRIEFS

Veterans - Exempted permanently and totally disabled veterans from paying property taxes

Environment - Banned numerous products containing dangerous PFAS chemicals

Health and Wellness - Made permanent access and coverage to telehealth that was scheduled to sunset June 30, 2024

Public Safety - Authorized permanent use of automated enforcement devices to enhance road safety and established vehicle noise limits with fines for violations

Higher Education - Expanded employer-based student loan repayment tax credits and reduced rates for state-backed loans for in-demand occupations