

Dear Neighbor,

This year, we took a huge step forward as a district and as a state. As gridlock and discord continue to dominate Washington politics, we in Connecticut chose to step up, work together across the aisle, and deliver for our middle class and working-class families.

As electric costs rose, we built on last year’s foundation to address public benefits, increase utilities’ supply, and promote responsible regulation throughout our state. As our kids needed protection, we stepped up to improve DCF reporting, evaluation, and transparency. As our world became more and more dependent on “likes”, algorithms, and automation, we worked to put responsible regulations on AI and social media. And as our schools and cities faced massive budget shortfalls, we met the moment and made historic investments in education funding and municipal aid.

Challenges are inescapable in public service. They are inescapable in life. Our strength lies in how we get up off the mat, dust ourselves off, and respond to those challenges. This year showed that when we work together and stay focused on the things that unite us, no challenge is too great.

It has been the honor of my life to go to work for my neighbors, friends, and family in the Connecticut House of Representatives. And no matter what our work may be in the coming years, may we do it well, may we do it responsibly, and may we do it together.

Your Neighbor,

Jonathan W. Fazzino



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
JACK FAZZINO
PROUDLY SERVING MERIDEN, CHESHIRE, BERLIN

860-240-8585 jackfazzino@cga.ct.gov www.houseedems.ct.gov/fazzino facebook.com/staterepjackfazzino

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**CAPITOL
UPDATE 2026**

Representative Jack Fazzino
Legislative Office Building, Room 2504
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

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FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE
JACK FAZZINO
PROUDLY SERVING MERIDEN, CHESHIRE, BERLIN



PROTECTING OUR IMMIGRANT NEIGHBORS & PROMOTING PUBLIC SAFETY

This year, both Meriden and Cheshire were shaken when two exceptional high school students were removed from their homes and taken into federal custody. Together, we stood up for Kevin and Rihan, we spoke out for them, and they made it back home where they belong– in Connecticut. As a leader on the Judiciary Committee, I strengthened our TRUST Act, which protects Connecticut’s immigrant students, families, and workers from unwarranted federal intrusion. We fought for and passed SB 397, which creates important state-level protections against overreach from federal agents. Finally, we preserved your private, sensitive information from unreasonable use and oversight from federal actors and large, faceless companies.

We also took important steps to further curb gun violence and crack down on reckless driving. Specifically, I worked on important legislation to prohibit the future sale, manufacture, and importation of certain convertible pistols and ghost guns. I also worked with DOT to lead passage of new highway legislation classifying distracted driving in highway work zones as a reckless driving offense. Public safety is a pillar of our district.



FUNDING OUR DISTRICT

FUNDING WINS FOR MERIDEN

Meriden’s state delegation continues to strengthen our state partnerships to help grow our city and bring hard-fought dollars back home. This year, I worked to secure funding wins for education, public safety, youth programs, and nonprofits:

- \$90 million in total education funding, including \$7.8 million in supplemental education funding.
- \$2.3 million in additional municipal aid.
- \$122 million in school reimbursement funding for Casmir Pulaski School.
- \$5 million for new public safety garages and training facilities for first responders.
- \$2 million in CIF funding for the Meriden Community Health Center.
- \$1.5 million for the Meriden-New Britain-Berlin YMCA.
- \$260,000 planning grant for the Meriden Boys & Girls Club.

FUNDING WINS FOR CHESHIRE

- \$10 million in total education funding, including \$851,153 in supplemental education funding.
- \$1.5 million in additional municipal aid.
- Additional school construction funding for outdoor athletic facility improvements, including turf field replacement projects at Cheshire High School.

FUNDING WINS FOR BERLIN

- \$8 million in total education funding, including \$582,603 in supplemental education funding.
- \$78,602 in additional municipal aid.
- \$800,000 in sidewalk improvements.

SAFEGUARDING CONNECTICUT VALUES

Two days into this new session, we went to work to offset the impact of looming federal cutbacks on Connecticut students, workers, and patients. We made critical investments in healthcare, mental health, food pantries, and other essential services.

We also fought to ensure your right to vote remains protected and that Connecticut continues to have free, fair, and accessible elections. We increased penalties for unlawful harassment of election officials and ballot box tampering.

Connecticut’s strength is its workforce. This year, we passed HB 5003, landmark legislation to provide critical workplace protections, promote pay transparency, crack down on wage theft, and expand benefits and state health insurance for volunteer firefighters, police, marshals, and other first responders.

INVESTING IN OUR KIDS

I believe in the power of education. Working with Senator Jan Hochadel, Rep. Hilda Santiago, and Rep. Michael Quinn, we began this session by meeting with public school students, teachers, administrators, and paraprofessionals to discuss the significant budget shortfalls facing our schools. After months of negotiations with the Governor’s office, we passed a hard-won bipartisan budget that delivered meaningful funding for our cities, as described below.

This investment in education helps offset property tax increases as inflation continues to strain municipal budgets. It preserves school jobs, funds essential services, and safeguards schools like Thomas Hooker School from imminent closure. It is the second bipartisan budget we have passed since I took office.

