



Dear Neighbor,

The 2026 legislative session is in the rearview mirror, and I want to share some highlights in this newsletter. It was a jam-packed session full of big ideas and important policies. Here's a taste:

Connecticut budget adds free school breakfasts, ends sales tax on school supplies
-Hearst CT

No-excuse absentee ballots make voting more accessible for those facing impediments to in-person voting due to disability and mobility limitations, lack of transportation, childcare or caretaking duties, or work schedules
-Office of Governor Ned Lamont

This newsletter has details about legislation we passed and key policy initiatives from the 2026 session. I hope you find it informative.

Enjoy,

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
ANTONIO FELIPE

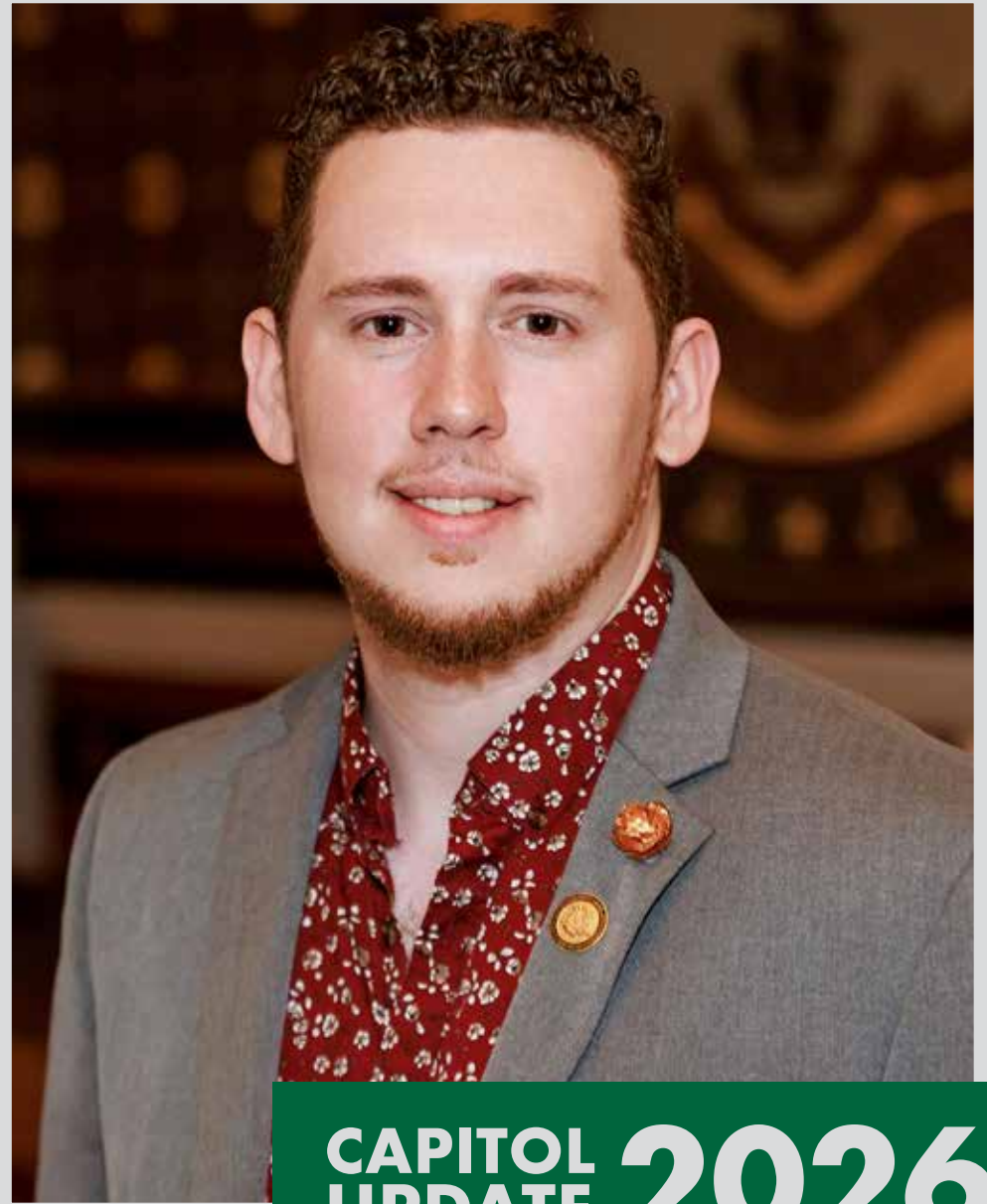
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**CAPITOL
UPDATE 2026**

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**CAPITOL
UPDATE 2026**

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A STATE BUDGET THAT INVESTS IN YOUR PRIORITIES

- Invested over \$190 million in public education for 2026-2027 school year.
- Allows us to prepay an additional \$1.1 billion in pension liability.
- \$300 million for early childhood endowment.

INVESTING IN EDUCATION

- \$25 million in local education funds!
- \$190 million in additional direct support for schools across the state.
- \$12 million for establishing universal free school breakfast programs across the state.
- Expanded grants for successful special education programs.
- Deposited \$300 million into the Early Childhood Endowment.
- Newly launched literacy interventions and concentrated tutoring.

SUPPORTING OUR WORKERS

- Bolstered efforts to connect veterans with employment opportunities – including workplace postings on veterans’ benefits and services.
- Improved pay for state police at state DOT projects.
- Created a tuition assistance program for in-state first responders.
- Protected subcontractor employees, who often don’t enjoy the same job protections as traditional employees, by ensuring they’re given a probationary period to keep their job when a new private company wins a bid to take over their work.

PROTECTING OUR YOUTH

- Passed a state law to make permanent a federal law that ensures educational access and stability for homeless youth.
- Increased funding for extreme weather shelters to ensure everyone has a place to go during weather events.
- Required childcare service providers to notify the state when staff is placed on the child abuse and neglect registry, and expanded background checks for their staff.

