



Rep. Fleischmann is joined by West Hartford seniors.

### Preserving State Support for Education

This year I worked hard as Chair of the Education Committee to ensure that municipalities could count on the state support that our public schools need. This support was maintained through level funding of the Education Cost Sharing program that will bring \$16,076,120 dollars to West Hartford’s public schools this year and next.

I am proud to report on the following steps forward in education policy:

- » Requiring the installation and maintenance of Carbon Monoxide detectors in all schools, a critical safety precaution that will save lives
- » Encouraging the sale of Connecticut grown products in school cafeterias
- » Recognizing American Sign Language – which was first developed at the American School for the Deaf in our town – as a World Language

### Meeting Children’s Special Needs

Children who require special education services will now receive them sooner. School districts must now perform evaluations within 60 days whenever it is believed that a child might require special education services.

PLACE  
STAMP  
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State Representative



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State Representative  
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## CAPITOL REPORT 2011

### Better Health Care Access & Affordability

Health care benefits are one of the largest expenses faced by individuals and employers. We enacted an important new law to protect and increase access to quality, affordable health care.

The Connecticut Health Care Partnership offers state health insurance coverage to municipalities and non-profit organizations. Taking advantage of the increased bargaining power and reduced administrative costs associated with the state plan will allow municipalities and non-profits to provide quality care with less cost. When municipalities save money on health care, those savings are passed on to property taxpayers.

### Honoring our Veterans

Veterans, along with their families, have sacrificed so much to allow us to enjoy our freedom and a democratic way of life. Veterans' bills passed this session:

- » Award Korean War Veterans High School Diplomas if they left school to serve  
*(I was proud to co-author this new law)*
- » Expand property tax interest waivers for soldiers in Iraq and Afghanistan
- » Provide disabled wartime veterans with free parking and admission to state recreational areas



Rep. Fleischmann chats with West Hartford resident Leland Tolo.

### Creating Jobs – My Top Priority

This year, I advocated for many job creating measures, including:

- » Leading the effort to protect Vo-tech schools that teach the skills that put people right to work
- » Encouraging large companies to add jobs or move to our state under the “First Five” program
- » Expanding of the University of Connecticut Health Center *(see below)*
- » Creation of a UConn Tech Park that will spur job creation
- » Positioning Connecticut as the preeminent scientific research state in the country

### UCONN Health Center Expansion

#### Creating Jobs & Expanding Medical Service

Passage of a bill to renovate and improve the University of Connecticut Health Center was a major achievement of the legislative session. We will be building a major bioscience research center, one that creates thousands of new jobs at the Health Center.

The proposal will add a patient care tower, upgrade the main building, create a new ambulatory care center and outpatient facilities, as well as renovate existing research space and construct additional parking. It will put people back to work and boost economic growth with 3,000 new construction jobs and healthcare positions in the new facilities. Nationally prominent Jackson Laboratory has already committed to creating over 600 research jobs and investing almost \$1 billion at this new facility—investing \$ 3 for every \$1 the state is investing in this project.

### Getting Tough on School Bullying

In response to growing concerns about school bullying —face-to-face and online— I co-authored legislation that strengthens school bullying laws and requires all school employees to complete annual training programs dealing with the problem.

The bill makes the school principal responsible to investigate and address bullying and cyber-bullying whether it occurs in or out-of-school.

Most important, every school will now undertake a “school climate assessment” annually, so that administrators and teachers can identify problems and nip them in the bud.

## LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH

State Representative

**ANDY FLEISCHMANN**

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## WATCH VIDEOS ONLINE



### Improving Education

Rep. Fleischmann discusses steps the Education Committee took this session to improve the quality of education for our students.

[www.housedems.ct.gov/Fleischmann/videos018.asp](http://www.housedems.ct.gov/Fleischmann/videos018.asp)

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