



Dear Neighbor,

The 2025 legislative session featured big issues like lowering energy bills, childcare, special education, and the state budget – and we tackled them all.

Our budget provides a \$250 check to working families under EITC guidelines and \$300 million to fund the childcare trust fund. We devoted hundreds of millions of dollars to special education and we approved comprehensive energy legislation to reduce electric bills for businesses and families.

“Connecticut will be poised to continue saving hundreds of millions of dollars annually to continue paying down its hefty pension debt at an accelerated pace.” -CT Mirror

And we did it responsibly. This newsletter has more details about the 2025 legislative session.

Enjoy,

Mary B. Fortier

BIG WINS FOR BRISTOL

- Cut Your Electric Bill
- Provided Millions for Special Education
- \$250 Tax Credit for Working Families
- Made Childcare More Affordable and Accessible



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
MARY FORTIER
PROUDLY SERVING BRISTOL & FORESTVILLE

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**CAPITOL
UPDATE 2025**

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CAPITOL UPDATE 2025



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A BALANCED BUDGET AND OUR SECOND-LARGEST SURPLUS IN STATE HISTORY

THANKS TO SOUND BUDGETING AND THE LEADERSHIP OF DEMOCRATS IN THE STATE LEGISLATURE WE:

- Delivered Single Greatest Investment in Children in Connecticut's History
- Made Historic Investments in Special Education (\$802,474 more for Bristol)

WE DELIVERED TARGETED, MEANINGFUL RELIEF AND LONG-TERM SUPPORT FOR WORKING FAMILIES THROUGH FAIRER TAX POLICIES:

- Established an Enhanced Tax Credit for Families
- Supported Childcare Providers
- Helped Families Save For College
- Expanded Capital for Special Education Infrastructure
- Invested in Our Workforce and Residents

STRENGTHENED OUR SAFETY NET

- Established inflationary increases for our nonprofit providers.
- Expanded Medicaid coverage for sickle cell treatment.
- Standardized and professionalized interpreter services for our residents who are deaf, deafblind and hard of hearing while creating training opportunities and complaint investigation.
- Promoted access to new birthing centers and encouraged more paternal involvement in the health of mothers and children.
- Helped terminally ill young adults get off a Medicaid waitlist and navigate care through a different program.

WORKING FOR CT WORKERS

- Expanded the program formerly known as MyCTsavings by including Personal Care Attendants (PCAs), allowing workers in a notoriously low-paying industry to have access to a state administered retirement plan utilizing Roth IRAs.
- Expanded coverage under the Firefighters Cancer Relief Program to include skin cancer.
- Expanded our landmark Paid Family and Medical Leave Insurance Program to cover non-certified school employees, such as secretaries, nurses, custodians, security officers, and paraeducators.

THANKS TO SOUND BUDGETING WE...

- Provided Medicaid increases for providers and increased funding for Federally Qualified Health Centers, such as the Community Health Center on North Main Street, for the first time in years. Increased rates will reach 17 providers located in 250 facilities in communities around our state who serve over 440,000 of our residents. This investment represents their first meaningful rate increase outside of binding arbitration in years. (\$5M/\$12M)
- Provided cost of living increases to community nonprofit providers.
- Supported rate increases for other medical providers who have been chronically underpaid according to our recent rate study.
- Continued services to support children's mental health – including funding our Urgent Crisis Centers.
- Provided new funding for the direct care of our kids through Medicaid (\$6.9M/\$7.2M).
- Continued mobile psychiatric response: 24/7 around our state.



SUPPORTING OUR SENIORS

- Ensured insurance coverage of biomarker testing to detect cancer early and improve treatment.
- Closed a loophole so that all employees at long-term care facilities undergo a background check.
- Provided free online college courses to our nursing home residents.
- Required greater consideration of how close your family lives when care homes try to transfer patients.
- Created anti-discrimination protections for residents of long-term care facilities and now require their staff to receive anti-discrimination training. Our state Department of Public Health and Long-Term Care Ombudsman can now investigate complaints and take disciplinary action.
- Personally continued to monitor the potential sale/closure of Sheriden-Woods, and I am also currently keeping an eye on the sale of Ingraham Manor.

HELPING OUR TOWNS

- Made it easier for towns to enforce housing code violations.
- Reduced red tape for converting vacant commercial property to housing.
- Required developers to finish their work in a timely manner, rather than leaving projects half-finished for years.
- Required all studies submitted for a development to disclose who paid for them and any conflicts of interest.