

# PUBLIC HEALTH FOR FAMILIES IN CONNECTICUT

- Improved coordination across state agencies and streamlined the process for residents to access nutrition programs
- Provided local markets with scanners that will make it easier to accept nutrition vouchers
- Allowed telehealth to continue for in-state and out-of-state residents
- Prohibited reporting medical debt to credit agencies



The 2024 legislative session ended with a flurry of major accomplishments for our communities, and we passed several bills driven by requests by people in our district. We secured over \$44 million in state funds for Ellington, East Windsor, and Vernon, and bonding funds for our towns, like the \$8 million dollars we recently received for radio system upgrades to provide better communication responses from first responders. I am proud of what we accomplished so far, and look forward to hearing from all of you on what's next!

In 2024, we made seniors safer in nursing homes and when receiving care at home, protected healthcare workers, promoted access to childcare, expanded access to early child nutrition programs, supported local education including school choice, helped local law enforcement - and we had to protect the largest tax cuts in state history.

I remain proud to serve as YOUR state representative.

Please continue to reach out to me, to help me form my agenda to serve you!

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Jaime Foster".

## NEW LAWS IN CT:

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE JAIME FOSTER



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## CAPITOL UPDATE 24

Representative Jaime Foster  
Legislative Office Building, Room 4000  
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

## CAPITOL UPDATE 2024

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE

## JAIME FOSTER

SERVING EAST WINDSOR, ELLINGTON & VERNON

CONTACT ME ANY TIME:

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# STATE REPRESENTATIVE JAIME FOSTER

## CAPITOL UPDATE 2024



### GROWING OUR ECONOMY

- Expanded the small business loan program in lower-income communities, like Vernon, and enabled more out of state businesses to expand into CT
- Created a more robust tax break system for local farms to make farming more affordable
- Worked closely with local businesses and the Connecticut Business and Industry Association on numerous bills they supported and worried about

### OUR BIPARTISAN BUDGET INCLUDES PROTECTING TAX CUTS

WE PASSED A BIPARTISAN BIENNIUM BUDGET THAT INCLUDES HISTORIC TAX CUTS AND INVESTMENTS FOR OUR COMMUNITY:

- LARGEST INCOME TAX CUT in state history
- Biggest investment in public education ever
- New supports for the intellectually and developmentally disabled community
- Capped taxes on pensions and annuities
- Protected safety net programs

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

- Higher Education - \$160 million with a path to grow to \$200 million
- Early Childcare - \$21.8 million
- Mental Health - \$24 million
- Nonprofits - \$50 million



### SUPPORTING FIRST RESPONDERS

- Improved access to benefits for the families of fallen first responders
- Established a Fallen Officer Fund to provide families of fallen police officers with cash assistance and health care coverage
- Toughened penalties for killing a police dog
- Addressed the Illegal Use of Certain Vehicles and Street Takeovers (HB 5413 - Passed in House)
- Approved new consumer protections for virtual currencies

### SUPPORTING LOCAL SCHOOLS

- State contributing to out of state tuition, saving local schools millions
- Created the Education Mandate Review Advisory Council to review local school mandates
- Enforced same day parental notice for child injuries
- Assisted paraeducators in paying for their health insurance

### MAKING CT SENIORS A PRIORITY

- Expedited Medicaid coverage for home-based care
- Created registry system for home care providers and dashboard for nursing home options
- Prevented nursing homes from putting more than two patients in a single room
- Required at least 60-90 days notice of any fee increases
- Created an incentive-based program to improve nursing home care in CT
- Fast-tracked transfers and receiverships during home closures
- Strengthened oversight of negligent nursing homes

### SUPPORTING AND HONORING VETERANS

- Exempted permanently and totally disabled veterans from property taxes
- Simplified Q license endorsement for veterans to join fire departments
- Broadened Military Relief Fund for families experiencing hardship
- Expanded veterans' driver's license and license plate options to reservists
- Officially recognized Vietnam veterans exposed to Agent Orange