



Dear Neighbor,

I'm writing to provide you with a summary of the 2022 legislative session. I wanted to share some of the legislation that was passed to help improve your quality of life.

We made the biggest tax cuts in CT's history to put more money back into your pockets, established a fully funded, first-of-its-kind mental health program to ensure that all of our kids are safe and have the resources they need, and offered additional relief to local businesses and restaurants so they can keep their doors open despite facing numerous challenges throughout the pandemic.

Our work this session will make life easier for you, even in the face of historically high inflation rates. Connecticut is in the best financial shape of the past 22 years. Our financial standing has been upgraded by the prestigious credit rating agencies of Standards and Poors, Fitch and Moody's, which saves the state interest when we must borrow money. Our reserve fund is at a historic high.

I successfully fought to secure funding for East Hartford in Fiscal Year 2023-the town will see an increase of millions of dollars, which will provide relief for property taxes. I am proud to make these critical investments in our community while maintaining CT's fiscal responsibility and integrity for the future.

All my best,



STATE REPRESENTATIVE

**HENRY J. GENGA**

PROUDLY SERVING EAST HARTFORD

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**CAPITOL  
UPDATE 2022**

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**CAPITOL  
UPDATE 2022**

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## 2022 SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- Addressing Children’s Mental Health Needs
- Cutting Taxes to Combat Historic Inflation
- Keeping CT Safe with Juvenile Justice Reform
- Making CT More Affordable for Residents
- Creating Environmentally Conscious Initiatives
- Maintaining CT’s Future Fiscal Integrity

### SERVING THOSE WHO SERVE US

- Guaranteed CT veterans in-state tuition rates (HB 5301)
- Adopted higher fire department equipment standards, collecting better data on the prevalence of cancer among firefighters, and secured more local funding for firefighters who leave service with a cancer diagnosis (SB 313)
- Provided funding to local volunteer fire departments who respond to emergencies on certain state highways (HB 5506)
- Established a new, local-option property tax exemption equal to 10% of home values for more veterans (PA 22-34)
- Created new license plates for veterans who served in Afghanistan or Iraq (PA 22-34)

### Giving Police the Tools They Need (PA 22-64)

- Extended employment protections to police officers who seek and receive mental health care services
- Improved training for handling incidents involving individuals with mental or physical disabilities

# I VOTED TO CUT YOUR TAXES

OUR STATE BUDGET INCLUDES

## \$650 MILLION IN TAX RELIEF

- ✔ Creates a Child Tax Credit
- ✔ Cuts property taxes for retirees
- ✔ Cuts the car tax
- ✔ Extends the gas tax cut
- ✔ Extends free bus service
- ✔ Ends pension and annuity tax
- ✔ Invests in healthcare workers



### GROWING CT’S ECONOMY

- Lowered the business tax rate for unemployment insurance, effectively making the federal loan repayment for the coming year on behalf of businesses
- Established JobsCT program – helping companies in target industries earn rebates against insurance premiums and state taxes for meeting job targets
- Supported CT residents with CDL training
- Made direct investments in community nonprofits
- Helped community providers keep up with inflation
- Provided support to museums, theaters and other CT attractions
- Created additional student loan assistance programs



### EDUCATION AND CHILDHOOD INITIATIVES

#### Supporting our Teachers

- Extended the renewal time for teaching certificates (SB 226)
- Ensured teachers get an uninterrupted 30 minutes for lunch (SB 1)
- Expanded scholarships for minority teachers (SB 1)

#### Giving Schools the Tools They Need to Succeed

- Ensured more districts will meet eligibility requirements for the federal School Breakfast Program (SB 226)
- Doubled grants to school districts for bilingual education (HB 5506)
- Established new reimbursement grant to assist schools in upgrading their HVAC systems, and ensured regular inspections and reporting on their operation (HB 5506)

#### Meaningful Investments in Childcare (HB 5506 and SB 1)

- Increased funding for infant and toddler care programs
- Increased pay to childcare workers to attract and retain more educators
- Expanded successful Birth to Three Program
- Assisted local childcare facilities with renovation costs
- Approved state tax credit for childcare