

Dear Neighbor,

It has been my honor and privilege to serve as your State Representative for the past 20 years! I hope my work in Hartford has made a positive impact on you and your families. I will miss interacting with the residents of East Hartford, but I will still see many of you around town.

The 2026 legislative session focused on protecting Connecticut from the wildly chaotic economy, whiplashed daily by the Trump Administration, as well as other big issues like elections, standing up for working families, funding our schools, and the state budget.

We made historic investments in police, fire, EMS, veterans, teachers, and health care workers. Voters demanded better access to absentee ballots, and we ensured their voices were heard. We know property taxes are too high, so we ensured every city and town received more state funding and directed them to lower mill rates if possible.

It was a three-month legislative session, and we had mountains to move. This newsletter provides more details on the legislation we passed and key policy initiatives from the 2026 session.

Enjoy,

Henry Genga



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
HENRY GENGA

PROUDLY SERVING EAST HARTFORD

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**CAPITOL
UPDATE 2026**

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

**CAPITOL
UPDATE 2026**



FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE
HENRY GENGA
PROUDLY SERVING EAST HARTFORD

- 860-240-8585
- Henry.Genga@cga.ct.gov
- housedems.ct.gov/Genga
- facebook.com/RepGenga





SMART FINANCE POLICY WITHOUT TAX INCREASES OR PARTISAN POLITICS

- Continued our commitment to responsible budgeting by putting \$1 billion toward paying down long-term debt
- Deposited another \$50 million into our emergency federal response fund
- Maintained our Budget Reserve Fund (often called “rainy day fund”) at a historic level

ADDED PROTECTIONS FOR TENANTS

- Created state fines for landlords who don’t return your security deposit
- Strengthened laws that require individual meters for separate electric bills at rental units

PROTECTED VULNERABLE CHILDREN

- Prioritized placing children with family members and responsible adults who are already in their lives
- Made sure there’s follow-up with sister-agencies when foster children move out of state
- Directed DCF to listen to other children in the house when there’s an open investigation
- Provided robust resources for parents and our DCF workforce

PRIORITIZED MAKING CONNECTICUT MORE AFFORDABLE FOR FAMILIES

- Expanded sales tax-free week to include clothing, shoes, and backpacks under \$300
- Made basic school supplies tax-free, including backpacks, lunchboxes, notebooks, pens, pencils, crayons, rulers, and paper
- Created a family caregiver tax credit for residents caring for a loved one
- Delivered on our promise to support early childhood education by investing \$300 million in the Early Childhood Education Endowment

TOOK AIM AT PROPERTY TAXES

- \$162 million new Education Equalization Grant to address underfunding in our current school funding formula
- \$100 million in new funding to cities and towns

INVESTED IN CONNECTICUT BUSINESSES AND JOB GROWTH

- Helped small businesses offer health care support by providing a tax credit when they contribute toward employees’ individual health insurance coverage
- Supported small businesses and biotech companies through a new research and development tax credit to help them grow and create jobs in our state

PROTECTED OUR SENIORS

- Required home health aide agencies to provide gloves, masks, and other personal protective equipment to their workers at no cost
- Promoted smaller styles of nursing homes for more person-centered care, stronger community ties, and a higher quality of life for residents

FUNDING FOR EAST HARTFORD

Representing East Hartford is a privilege and when I work with my colleagues on the state budget it is always top of mind.

This year we secured:

\$77,953,212

for Education

\$30,972,203

for Town Aid

\$9.2 MILLION

More than last year!

\$68 MILLION

more than when I took office in 2006

