

IMPORTANT TELEPHONE NUMBERS

General Assistance	2-1-1
Department of Social Services	855-626-6632
Tax Department	860-297-5962
Consumer Protection	800-842-2649
Department of Veterans' Affairs	866-928-8387
Office of the Healthcare Advocate	866-466-4446
Medicare	800-633-4227
Center for Medicare Advocacy	800-262-4414
Connecticut Insurance Department	800-203-3447
CT Fair Housing Center	860-247-4400
Statewide Legal Services of CT	860-344-0380

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

HENRY GENGA

REPRESENTING EAST HARTFORD | 10TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT



Legislative Office Building
Hartford, CT 06106-1591
Capitol: 860-240-8500
www.housedems.ct.gov/Genga

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Dear friends and neighbors,

First, I want to thank you for your support as it is my honor to serve another term as your state representative. As a peer and as your legislator, I will continue to work diligently to improve the quality of life for all seniors and veterans.

To help keep you informed and engaged in the legislative process, I will send you updates on the actions taken by the legislature, particularly on the issues directly affecting our community. I hope you find this information to be of use and please know that I will represent East Hartford to the best of my ability.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Henry Genga".

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THE CONSUMER LAW PROJECT FOR ELDERS

The Consumer Law Project for Elders (a project of Connecticut Legal Services, Inc.) provides free legal assistance to Connecticut residents age 60 or over who have questions about consumer rights, debt or collection problems, receipt of bills for items never purchased, identity theft, bankruptcy, dispute of goods or services purchased and unfair and undisclosed loan terms. For more information, call 1 (800) 296-1467. Spanish-speaking staff is available.



THE CHOICES PROGRAM

For individuals age 60 and older and those with disabilities, the CHOICES Program provides help with Medicare and other related health insurance options. They also make referrals to appropriate agencies in order to help individuals access needed services. Contact a CHOICES counselor at 1 (800) 994-9422 for assistance and help in understanding the Medicare options available so that you can make an educated choice about your coverage.

CONNECTICUT HOME CARE PROGRAM FOR ELDERS (CHCPE)

This program is appropriate for low-to-moderate-income families caring at home for someone 65 or over, who would otherwise be at risk of nursing home placement. There are different levels of eligibility based on income and/or assets. For more information, and to receive an application or make a referral, call the Alternate Care Unit at CT's Department of Social Services 1 (800) 445-5394.

RENTERS' REBATE PROGRAM FOR THE ELDERLY AND DISABLED

If you are elderly or disabled, you may be eligible to participate in the Renters' Rebate Program provided your income does not exceed certain limits. Based on income and the amount of your rent and utility payments (excluding telephone), the rebate can be up to \$900 for married couples or \$700 for single persons. You may call the Renters' Rebate Program Hotline at (860) 418-6377.

State Benefits: Property Tax Exemptions

A \$1,500 reduction of a property's assessed value for tax purposes (real estate or automobile) is available for veterans who have ninety days of wartime service, including Merchant Marines who served during WWII. Veterans, and surviving spouses, below a certain income level and/or disabled may be eligible for additional property tax exemptions. Contact your municipality's tax assessor's office for specific details.

Military Support Counseling Program

This 24/7 hotline connects callers with mental health services and programs sponsored by the Connecticut Department of Mental Health and Addiction Services. (866) 251-2913. <http://1.usa.gov/1OyOzZo>

Tuition Waivers

Veterans may attend Connecticut public colleges, universities and the 12 community technical- colleges tuition free. To be eligible for tuition benefits, a veteran must be honorably discharged from the U.S. Armed Forces, have 90 days active military duty during war, must have resided in Connecticut for at least one year upon enrolling and admitted to a degree program. For more information, contact the Veterans' Services or Financial Aid/Bursar's Office of the school you are interested in attending.

- University of Connecticut: www.veterans.uconn.edu
- Connecticut State University System: www.ct.edu/students/veterans
- Connecticut Community Colleges: www.ct.edu

ENERGY SAVINGS TIPS:

Turn off lights, appliances, and electronics when not in use
(especially cell phone chargers, microwaves, coffee pots, toaster ovens, etc).

This can save 12 % or more of home energy costs.

In the summer, raise your thermostat by several degrees if you have central air.

For each 5 degree increase, you will save approximately 10% in energy costs.