



Dear Neighbor,

The 2026 legislative session is in the rearview mirror, and I want to share some highlights in this newsletter. It was a jam-packed session full of big ideas and important policies. Here's a taste:

"Connecticut budget adds free school breakfasts, ends sales tax on school supplies"

-Hearst CT

"No-excuse absentee ballots make voting more accessible for those facing impediments to in-person voting due to disability and mobility limitations, lack of transportation, childcare or caretaking duties, or work schedules"

-Office of Governor Ned Lamont

This newsletter has details about legislation we passed and key policy initiatives from the 2026 session. I hope you find it informative.

Enjoy,

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
BOBBY GIBSON
DEPUTY SPEAKER

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**CAPITOL
UPDATE 2026**

Representative Bobby Gibson
Legislative Office Building, Room 4100
Hartford, CT 06106-1591



**CAPITOL
UPDATE 2026**

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE
BOBBY GIBSON
DEPUTY SPEAKER

PROUDLY SERVING BLOOMFIELD
& WEST HARTFORD

☎ 860-240-8585
✉ Bobby.Gibson@cga.ct.gov
🌐 housedems.ct.gov/Gibson
📘 facebook.com/RepGibson





INVESTING IN EDUCATION

- Allocated \$12 million to expand free school breakfasts across the state
- Expanded grants for successful special education programs
- Newly launched literacy interventions and concentrated tutoring
- Expanded the Aspiring Educators Scholarship Program
- Increased supplemental education funding to cities and towns
- Advanced reforms to the Education Cost Sharing formula, requiring funding increases for schools to better align state education funding with rising costs

QUIETER STREETS, STRONGER COMMUNITIES

- Strengthened Connecticut's vehicle noise laws by prohibiting exhaust modifications that amplify noise, helping reduce noise pollution, improve quality of life for residents, and create quieter neighborhoods

SUPPORTING OUR SENIORS AND VETERANS

- Required staff at assisted living agencies to receive annual training on residents' fear of retaliation, so seniors can freely speak up about their care
- Ensured residential care home residents can set up cameras in their rooms to stay connected with family and monitor their care
- Required assisted living facilities to give 60 days' notice before any fee increase
- Required the Department of Veterans Affairs to distribute free CTtransit bus passes to Connecticut veterans
- Expanded what proof veterans and their families can submit to claim a property tax exemption



A STATE BUDGET THAT INVESTS IN YOUR PRIORITIES

- Invested over \$190 million in public education for 2026-2027 school year
- The budget allows us to prepay an additional \$1.1 billion in pension liability
- **Allocated \$320 million** for early childhood endowment

