



Bob meets with families from Danbury Children's First at the Legislative Office Building.

SAVING YOUR MONEY DELIVERING YOUR SERVICES

Yes! We cut costs and streamlined state government. Connecticut is being run more efficiently because:

- » We reduced the number of state agencies by 30 percent from 81 to 56
- » We upgraded technology to improve productivity
- » We eliminated borrowing for operating expenses
- » We fully funded pension obligations
- » We encouraged all three branches of state government to go "paperless" to lower costs
- » We stayed below the constitutional spending cap
- » We kept the Danbury DMV branch open
- » We implemented procedures to address ballot shortages and other Election Day issues
- » We required towns to have an emergency plan for Election Day

State Representative
BOB GODFREY

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State Representative | Deputy Speaker
Bob Godfrey
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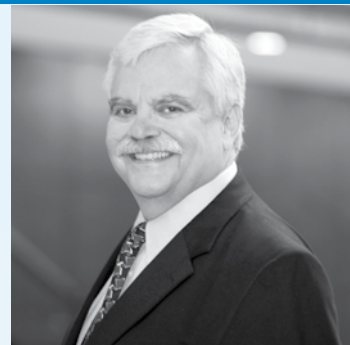


STATE REPRESENTATIVE - CONNECTICUT GENERAL ASSEMBLY



State Representative

Bob Godfrey



Dear Neighbor,

What a year! Our state is still trying to recover from the Wall Street/Big Bank recession. While we had been able to weather the immediate consequences with emergency planning and federal assistance, it was left to our new Governor, Dannel Malloy, to deal with unaddressed inefficiencies, old but enforceable contracts with employees, and ongoing uncertainty over the deadlock in Washington.

Some people said the solution was to decimate Medicare, slash public schools, and leave you to your own devices with no help from your government. I'm not one of them. My job is to find ways to maintain the services you demand and need, within revenues we all can afford. That is my challenge, and I've made the necessary, painful start.

We've balanced the budget without mortgaging the future. We've reduced both the size and the cost of state agencies through consolidation, productivity increases, and renegotiated employee contracts. We've kept important services like Danbury's DMV office open. We've maintained the safety net. We shored-up funds to cities to help mitigate Danbury's increasing property taxes. We did raise some taxes, but in a way that spreads the burden to the richest among us.

One personal note. I missed my first (and second) regular session day in my 23-year service to you as your state representative. I was hospitalized early in May with type 2 diabetes, which runs in both sides of my family. I appreciate all the 'get well' messages. Everything is thankfully under control now.

Do keep in touch. I work best when you let me know what you're concerned about. Thanks!

Bob Godfrey
Deputy Speaker
Connecticut House of Representatives

Bob Godfrey

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If you need additional assistance or have questions, please contact me:

State Representative
Bob Godfrey

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BRINGING YOUR STATE TAX DOLLARS HOME

Despite the difficulties surrounding the 2012-2013 biennial budget debate, I am proud to have not only maintained, but increased funding for Danbury. While we did cut \$900 million from this year’s state budget, I am committed to preserving the safety net our community depends on and keeping property taxes down.

Danbury Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Aid	
Educational Cost Sharing	\$22,857,956
Priority School Grant (anticipated appropriation)	\$2,300,000
PILOT: State Owned Property	\$2,261,264
PILOT: Colleges & Hospitals	\$1,289,310
Pequot/Mohegan Revenue Sharing	\$933,276
School Transportation	\$696,718
Local Capital Improvement Program	\$550,428
Town Aid Roads	\$421,296
Adult Education	\$240,393
Total State Funds to Danbury	\$31,550,640
Total State Funds to Danbury in 2011	\$29,502,908
Increase Funding From 2011-2012	\$2,047,732



Bob discusses judicial reforms with Mike Thompson, from the Justice Center.



Bob and Rep. Joe Taborsak discuss the budget at the Danbury Public Library.

A BALANCED BUDGET

Working cooperatively with Governor Dannel Malloy, we crafted a historic budget to address the financial crisis brought on by the worst recession since the Great Depression. Our budget will stabilize the state’s finances, streamline state government, and create jobs.

This budget is comprehensive, bold, tough, and honest. The 2012-2013 budget passed by the General Assembly and signed by Governor Malloy:

- » Cuts spending by \$900 million
- » Saves \$1.6 billion in Union Concessions (Labor Savings)
- » Lowers taxes from the governor’s proposed budget
- » Eliminates the proposed gas tax of 3 cents per gallon
- » Protects the middle class
- » Restores the state property tax credit to \$300
- » Eliminates nuisance tax proposals on coupons and hair cuts
- » Protects the sales tax-free week
- » Increases the millionaire’s tax
- » Fairly distributes the income tax burden
- » Balances the budget without borrowing for operating expenses
- » Streamlines government by consolidating state agencies (31 percent reduction)
- » Maximizes the use of federal funds
- » Saved Henry Abbott Technical High School, that teaches the skills that put people to work

Finally, we produced a budget with real leadership and bold approaches to our common problems and concerns. I am proud to have supported a new course for our state, one that focuses on jobs and the needs and rights of each of us that will lead us to real prosperity.



Bob received the Public Service Award at the Annual Probate Court Meeting for his efforts in sponsoring a major probate court reform bill that reduced the number of courts in the state, saved money, and improved services. Pictured: Bob with Judges Caruso, Knierim and Yamin

PRESERVING THE SAFETY NET

Our most vulnerable residents, children and the elderly and those at risk for losing their homes, were protected from excessive cuts to programs and services. This session, I rejected proposals to shred the safety net, such as reducing Medicare funding by half-a-billion dollars. We also:

- » Protected public school funding
- » Expanded the school breakfast program
- » Instituted the earned income tax credit
- » Protected service workers’ health and yours with paid sick days
- » Created the Connecticut Healthcare Partnership to protect and increase access to quality, affordable health care
- » Created a coordinated system for early childhood education
- » Strengthened school bullying laws

CITIES AND TOWNS

Towns Save Money By Working Together

Saving money for cities and towns to keep property taxes down is what drove a bill that:

- » Clarifies how municipalities can work together
- » Encourages them to retain or improve services
- » Shortens and simplifies their approval process to enter agreements

Reducing Red Tape

Local tax collectors will now be able to send statements and process bills for residents and businesses electronically which will be more convenient and save money. Certain conditions apply and include:

- » Taxpayers must consent to the new process
- » Transactions must have receipts
- » Municipal websites need updating to process transactions

