



Representative Anthony Nolan, Jeremy Stein executive director of CT Against Gun Violence, Representative Steve Stafstrom, chair of the Judiciary Committee, and I meet with supporters of Public Act 23-53, An Act Addressing Gun Violence

Dear Neighbor,

It has been a great year for you. The 2023 legislative session is now in the rearview mirror, and I wanted to take a moment to share some highlights from our successes on your behalf.

I'm happy to have supported a budget that delivers historic income tax cuts - over \$600 million - for working families like yours. At the same time, we were able to increase funding for students in our public schools, for our most vulnerable neighbors, public safety, and non-profit service providers. We paid down our long-term debt, including an additional \$2.072 billion in unfunded future pension liability which saves taxpayers like you millions of dollars in our future. We did it in a bipartisan effort, without the fighting you see in Washington.

We were also successful in taking new steps combatting gun violence, for which I'm sending you a separate report.

This update outlines some of the benefits and protections we achieved.

As always, I'm here to listen and help. I'd love to hear from you if you would like more details or have any questions on the initiatives addressed in this legislative update. Don't hesitate to contact me if you have a particular concern or if you need help with a state agency.

Best wishes,

*Bob Godfrey*



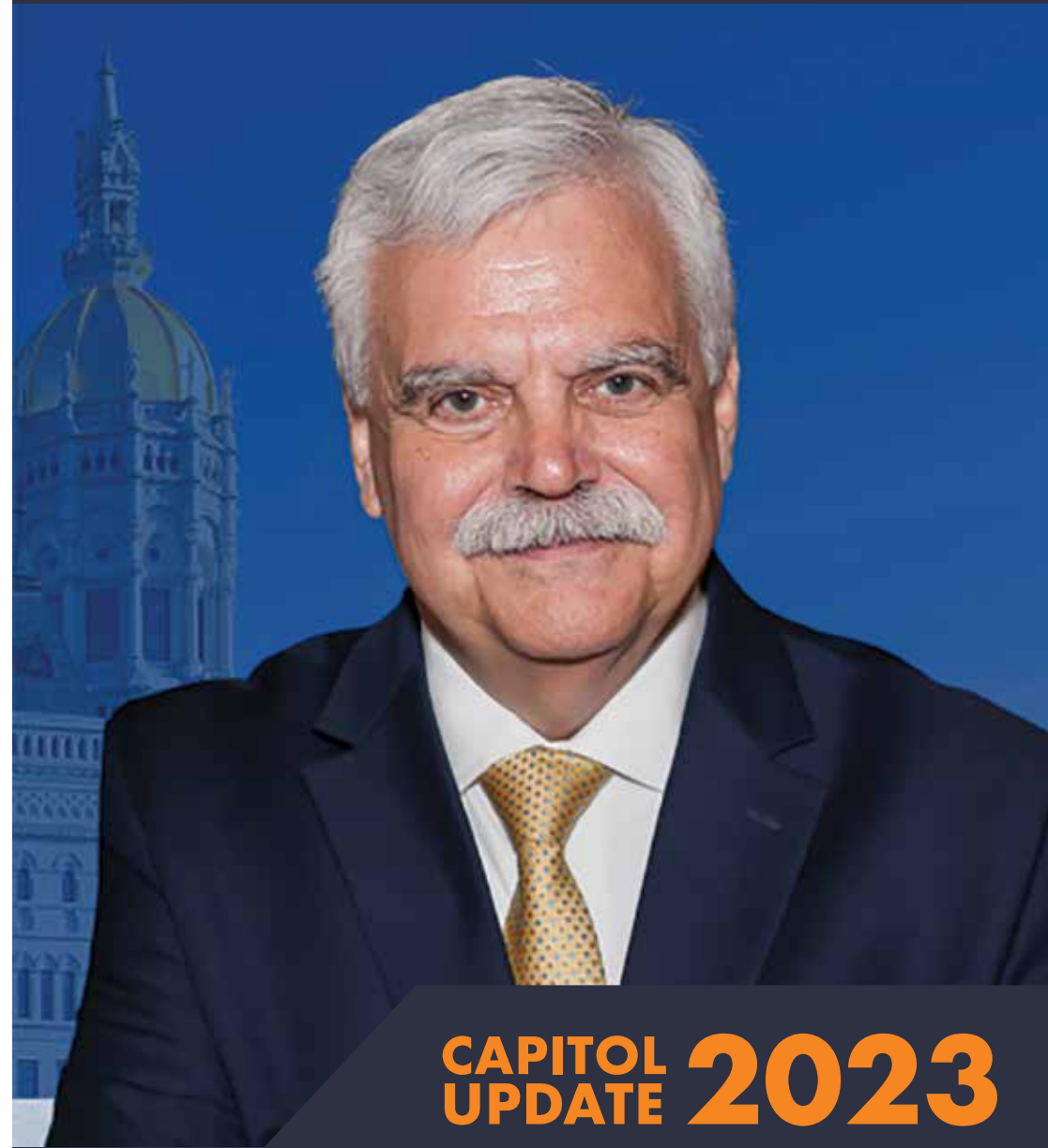
STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**BOB GODFREY**

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OUR BIPARTISAN BUDGET INCLUDES THE

# LARGEST TAX CUT IN STATE HISTORY

- ✔ \$600 million middle class tax cut
- ✔ Increased Earned Income Tax Credit for lower income workers
- ✔ Expanded cuts to retirement savings to benefit seniors

## INVESTS:

- ✔ More funding for K-12 education
- ✔ More funding for higher education
- ✔ More funding for nonprofits
- ✔ More funding for childcare



### BRINGING YOUR TAX \$\$\$ HOME

Education Cost Sharing (ECS).....	\$45,682,808
Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT).....	\$5,897,022
Grants For Municipal Projects.....	\$3,027,544
Town Aid Road.....	\$884,458
Local Capital Improvement Project .....	\$867,114
Center for School Safety and Crisis Preparation .....	\$552,000
<b>Special Non-Profit Funding:</b>	
Danbury Youth Services.....	\$75,000
Women's Employment Program .....	\$25,000
Friends of the Danbury Museum and Historical Society .....	\$50,000
Cultural Alliance of Western Connecticut.....	\$50,000
Danbury Youth Baseball .....	\$50,000

Our emphasis on public education resulted in an additional \$12 million over the next two years for Danbury. I'm hoping that the city of Danbury appropriates this extra money to the Board of Education. It is desperately needed for the overcrowded system. While our property taxes skyrocketed, schools are still woefully underfunded; Danbury is the last city in the state for support of public schools. It's 169th out of 169 municipalities. That underfunding is why, when the Danbury delegation attempted to get \$20 million for the proposed Danbury Academy to offset the mayor's mistake in overpaying for the building, we were only able to get \$10 million. I will try next year to get the additional \$10 million.

### PROTECTING CONSUMERS

- Required companies that charge you through an auto-renewal subscription to get your permission before charging you for the next billing cycle (PA 23-191)
- Protected precise geolocation data under our data privacy laws and created more stringent standards for targeted advertising to children (PA 23-98)
- Demanded TV and cable companies give you a prorated refund if you cancel before the end of your billing cycle (PA 23-98)
- Required the driver's license test to be offered in 26 languages (PA 23-40)



Bob meets with the Danbury YMCA Youth and Government delegation, led by Bill McNamara

### PROTECTING YOUR RIGHT TO VOTE

- Enacted early voting – providing voting opportunities 14 days before Election Day for general elections, 7 days before most primaries, and 4 days before special elections and the Presidential primary (PA 23-5)
- Approved a resolution that will ask voters in the Nov. 2024 election whether we should have no excuse absentee ballots (HJ 1)
- Adopted anti-discrimination laws around voting (PA 23- 204)

### PROTECTING SENIORS

- Shield senior citizens from scams by allowing banks to freeze transactions when they suspect a senior is being a victim (PA 23-161)
- Expanded Medicaid coverage for services like primary healthcare, physical therapy, and meals (PA 23-30)
- Increased funding for elderly nutrition and Meals on Wheels (PA 23-204)
- Strengthened patient's involvement in their homemaker care plans and streamlined the process for filing complaints (PA 23-48)

### PROTECTING RENTERS

- Increased municipal fines to \$2,000 for rental property violations (unsanitary or unsafe living conditions) (PA 23 - 207)
- Required landlords to offer walk-throughs prior to signing a lease (PA 23 - 207)
- Capped rental application fees at \$50 (PA 23 - 207)
- Erased judicial records for renters who win eviction cases (PA 23 - 207)
- Required a more timely return of security deposits (PA 23 - 207)
- Capped late charges for past due rent (PA 23 - 207)