

Dear Neighbor,

It was a year that was the most successful ever! I worked with my Danbury colleagues:

- To keep the tax cuts of nearly a billion dollars targeted at working families, seniors, and disabled veterans;
- To ensure most retirees' income would not be taxed;
- To return the largest ever state investment to public schools run by our elected Board of Education, to relieve overcrowding and past city underfunding;
- To send \$12 million to Danbury, most of which the mayor used to our public schools to prevent over 120 teacher and staff layoffs;
- To successfully get \$1.375 million for road and drainage work near Park Place and Main, for and Elmwood Park;
- To increase funding for Western Connecticut State University, mental health, and the nonprofit agencies that serve you;

With Mayor Roberto Alves, who came to Hartford to advocate for Danbury.

There were many other accomplishments for you which I'm reporting on in this newsletter. If you have any questions don't hesitate to contact me.

Best wishes,

Escanee el código QR o comuníquese con mi oficina para ver este boletín en español.



2024 SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- Providing Quality Care for Seniors
- Maintaining Historic Tax Cuts
- Making Childcare More Affordable and Accessible
- Maintaining CT's Future Fiscal Integrity



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
BOB GODFREY

PROUDLY SERVING DANBURY

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HARTFORD, CT
Permit No. 3937

CAPITOL UPDATE 2024

Representative Bob Godfrey
Legislative Office Building, Room 4107
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

CAPITOL UPDATE 2024



Mayor Alves visits the House chambers.

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE
BOB GODFREY
PROUDLY SERVING DANBURY



800-842-1902



Bob.Godfrey@cga.ct.gov



housedems.ct.gov/Godfrey



facebook.com/StateRepBobGodfrey





Visiting Henry Abbot Tech with Lt Gov. Bysiewicz



Standing with nurses for better working conditions



BRINGING YOUR TAX \$\$\$ HOME

Education Cost Sharing (ECS)	\$45,201,306
Payment in Lieu of Taxes (PILOT)	\$6,252,105
Grants For Municipal Projects	\$3,027,544
Town Aid Road	\$885,720
South Main Street Revitalization grant.....	\$1,325,000
West Conn School Safety and Policies grant.....	\$552,000
Working Cities grant	\$250,000
Danbury Youth Services.....	\$75,000
Cultural Alliance of Western CT	\$50,000
Friends of the Danbury Museum & Historical Society	\$50,000
Danbury Grassroots Academy Uniforms.....	\$8,000
Ellsworth Elementary School.....	1,928,000
Danbury Academy*	\$179,500,000

*** THIS IS A \$25.5 MILLION INCREASE IN TOTAL PROJECT COST REIMBURSEMENT AT 80% OF ELIGIBLE COSTS.**

THIS SESSION WE PROTECTED TAX CUTS AND INVESTED MILLIONS OF FEDERAL FUNDS IN:

- **Higher Education - \$160 million with a path to grow to \$200 million**
- **Early Childcare - \$21.8 million**
- **Mental Health - \$24 million**
- **Nonprofits - \$50 million**

KEEPING SENIORS A PRIORITY

- Expedited Medicaid coverage for home-based care as an alternative to more costly nursing home care (PA 24-39)
- Created a new registry system to connect patients to home care providers and created a dashboard to help navigate nursing home options (PA 24-39)
- Created an incentive-based program to improve nursing home care in CT (PA 24-39)
- Required health insurance coverage for detecting coronary artery disease (PA 24-19)
- Strengthened oversight of negligent nursing homes (PA 24-141)

PROTECTING OUR NEIGHBORS

- Protected domestic violence victims from being forced into debt by their abuser (PA 24-77)
- Excluded medical debt from counting against your credit score (PA 24-6)

SUPPORTING AND HONORING OUR VETERANS

- Exempted permanently and totally disabled veterans from paying property taxes (PA 24-46)
- Expanded eligibility for grants from the Military Relief Fund for families experiencing hardship (PA 24-57)
- Expanded veterans' driver's license and license plate options to reservists (PA 24-146)
- Formally recognized Vietnam veterans who were exposed to Agent Orange (SJ 6)

HOUSING INITIATIVES (PA 24-143)

- Incentivized towns to develop more multi-family housing
- Required 45-day notice of rent increases
- Streamlined the process for converting vacant nursing homes into housing
- Prioritized surplus state-owned land to be used for workforce housing
- Increased the value of state rental vouchers

GROWING OUR ECONOMY

- Expand the small business loan program in lower-income communities and enabled more out of state businesses to expand into CT (PA 24-36)
- Made it easier for nurses and social workers to move to and practice in CT (PA 24-83 and PA 24-30)

ADDRESSING OUR TEACHER WORKFORCE (PA 24-41)

- Cut certification red tape to make licensing faster and enable teachers to teach more subjects across more grades
- Expanded eligibility in the fast-track certification program
- Made it easier for industry experts to teach in our tech schools

SUPPORTING WORKERS (PA 24-8)

- Supported middle-class and working families by granting most full- and part-time workers access to Paid Sick Days over a three-year period:
 1. Use for yourself or to care for a loved one
 2. Up to 40 hours per year
 3. Roll over time to the following year
 4. No doctor's note required



Helping the League of Women Voters register students at Immaculate High School