

Left: Bob at the annual Exchange Club Veterans Day celebration. Right: Bob joins US Sen. Dick Blumenthal in honoring WWII Marine veteran John Esposito.

#### **DIPLOMAS FOR VIETNAM VETS**

Many Connecticut veterans put their own lives on hold to serve our country during times of war. This year the state legislature continued a tradition of recognizing these individuals by allowing local and regional school boards to award high school diplomas to Vietnam Era veterans who left high school for military service before graduating. *(SB 386)* 

#### TRAINING NURSING HOME STAFF

I'm committed to protecting the most vulnerable residents in our state who reside in nursing homes. By passing legislation that requires nursing home staff to be trained to be aware of residents' fear of retaliation when they file a complaint about abuse, legislators continue to protect the frailest members of our society who rely on caregivers. This law provides for education and awareness, nurtures an environment of open communication and ensures that both residents and staff are aware of their rights. *(SB 519)* 

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DANBURY SERVING THE 110TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT PROUDLY



CONNECTICUT HOUSE DEMOCRATS

# STATE REPRESENTATIVE | DEPUTY SPEAKER Bob Godfpgy

### Senior and Veteran Legislative Update

Programs To Help You and Your Family

## STATE REPRESENTATIVE | DEPUTY SPEAKER Bob Godffgy

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#### Dear Neighbor,

It's no surprise that I support veterans and senior citizens. I'm a veteran of active duty and a U.S. Naval Reservist from 1970 -1977. In September I celebrate my 65th birthday. I've been busy during the recent legislative session, so I'm sending you this special report on new laws that impact veterans and senior citizens, and some phone numbers for places to get help. I hope it's useful to you.

I can do my job best if we keep in touch. Please feel free to call me, e-mail me, and browse my web page; I've listed my contact information on the front of this report.

Warm regards,



#### OFFICE OF THE HEALTHCARE ADVOCATE

This independent state agency assists consumers with health plan issues like denials of coverage and unwarranted billing and is a federally recognized consumer assistance program under the Affordable Care Act. If you are experiencing trouble with your healthcare coverage, call **866-466-4446**.

#### MEDICARE SAVINGS PROGRAM

There are a variety of beneficial programs that help you pay for your Medicare Part B premiums. It does not cost anything to apply or receive benefits from this program. You may even be eligible to have your deductibles under Medicare covered as well. Learn more by calling **1-800-842-1508**.

#### SYNCHRONIZING PRESCRIPTION REFILLS

I am proud to have supported a bill that requires individual insurance policies to cover refills of prescription drugs. No longer will health insurers be able to deny coverage for refilling any drug prescribed to treat chronic illness. *(HB 5767)* 

#### **VETERANS' CONTACT PERSON**

A new law that passed with wide support in both the House and Senate will now require cities and towns across Connecticut to designate a contact person for veterans returning home to their communities. This individual will be a all-in-one guide, helping veterans navigate the full range of local, state, and federal resources available to them. *(HB 5388)* 

At home in Danbury, you can contact Pat Waldron - Director of Veteran Affairs at **203-797-4620**.

#### CONNECTICUT HOME CARE PROGRAM FOR ELDERS

This program helps Connecticut seniors that are physically and financially struggling to meet their basic needs. Their services range from companion and homemaker services to home delivered meals. For more information, or to start the application process, please call **1-800-445-5394**.

#### MILITARY LEAVE FROM EMPLOYMENT

This bill protects employees who serve or served in the military from workplace discrimination due to their service. Specifically, it extends the employment protections currently afforded to employees who are U.S. armed forces reservists or National Guard members to members of the state armed forces who take time from their employment to perform ordered military duty. *(SB 835)* 

#### MONEY FOLLOWS THE PERSON

Offers enhanced community services and support to people who have resided in nursing facilities for at least six months. Their housing initiative has increased housing options for seniors across the state. Learn more by calling **1-800-842-1508**.

