



Dear Neighbor,

I'm proud to share historic highlights from the 2022 legislative session. Historic like more than \$650 million in tax cuts. Historic like our investment in the mental health of our children. Historic like a state budget that pays off millions in pension debt and leaves our record rainy day fund intact, while investing in Stratford's schools, public safety and programs that work - all while honoring the spending cap.

That's not to say we aren't facing challenges. We are seeing national inflation hitting everyone's wallets and housing prices make even modest homes unaffordable. That's why I fought hard to provide you relief by: increasing the property tax credit, phasing out state taxes on retirement income, creating a childcare rebate, cutting the state gas tax and more.

I hope you find this newsletter packed with useful information. It is my pleasure to serve as your state representative.

All my best,

2022 SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- Addressing Children's Mental Health Needs
- Cutting Taxes to Combat Historic Inflation
- Keeping CT Safe with Juvenile Justice Reform
- Bolstering Reproductive Freedoms
- Creating Environmentally Conscious Initiatives



STATE REPRESENTATIVE

JOSEPH P. GRESKO

PROUDLY SERVING STRATFORD

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CAPITOL UPDATE 2022

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CAPITOL UPDATE 2022



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I VOTED TO CUT YOUR TAXES

OUR STATE BUDGET INCLUDES

\$650 MILLION IN TAX RELIEF

- ✔ Creates a Child Tax Credit
- ✔ Cuts property taxes for retirees
- ✔ Cuts the state vehicle tax
- ✔ Extends the state gas tax cut
- ✔ Extends free bus service
- ✔ Ends pension and annuity tax

LARGEST TAX CUT IN STATES HISTORY

- Increased state income tax credit for all property owners from \$200 to \$300
- Increased the Earned Income Tax Credit for the 2023 tax year, cutting taxes for our neediest families
- Eliminated pension and annuity taxes for retirees making less than 75k/year
- Secured one-time childcare rebate of \$250 per child, up to three children
- Capped car taxes at 32.46 mills
- Cut state gas tax to zero through December 1, 2022

GIVING SCHOOLS THE TOOLS THEY NEED

- Doubled grants to school districts for bilingual education
- Established new reimbursement grant to assist schools in upgrading their HVAC systems

GROWING CT'S ECONOMY

- Approved economic incentives for Sikorsky tied to new federal contracts and expansion
- Lowered the business tax rate for unemployment insurance, effectively making the federal loan repayment for the coming year on behalf of businesses
- Made direct investments in community nonprofits
- Provided support to museums, theaters and other CT attractions
- Expanded successful Manufacturing Pipeline program

ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES

- Sped up the timeline for the electrification of the state fleet of vehicles
- Made it easier for renters and condo owners to install electric chargers
- Required the installation of electric chargers at new state and commercial buildings
- Exempted electric charging stations from property tax assessment
- Established a grant program to help municipalities improve traffic signals
- Expanded financing to develop zero emission vehicle infrastructure, build more solar power and fuel cells, and reinforce our electric grid against the effects of climate change

IMPROVING ACCESS TO QUALITY HEALTH CARE

- Expanded screenings for breast and cervical cancer
- Increased funding to our specialty care hospitals



GIVING POLICE THE TOOLS THEY NEED

- Extended employment protections to police officers who seek and receive mental health care services
- Improved training for handling incidents involving individuals with mental or physical disabilities.
- Made it harder for criminals to steal catalytic converters to sell them



SERVING THOSE WHO SERVE US

- Guaranteed CT veterans in-state tuition rates
- Adopted higher department equipment standards, collecting better data on the prevalence of cancer among firefighters, and secured more local funding for firefighters who leave service with a cancer diagnosis.
- Established a new, local-option property tax exemption equal to 10% of home values for more veterans

FIGHTING FOR REPRODUCTIVE RIGHTS

Our state remains a haven for an individual's right to choose. We set the standard in the nation to not mess with CT on reproductive rights by bolstering and establishing protections for both those seeking abortions and those who provide such services.

- Blocked Texas and other aggressive states from targeting CT patients, doctors and advocates
- Protected individuals from extradition to other states for seeking, providing, or assisting others in obtaining reproductive healthcare that is legal in Connecticut

MEANINGFUL INVESTMENTS IN CHILDREN

- Increased funding for infant and toddler care programs
- Increased pay to childcare workers to attract and retain more educators
- Expanded successful Birth to Three Program
- Assisted with local childcare renovation costs and protected medical privacy
- Approved state tax credit for childcare