

# 2013 Legislative Preview

As your State Representative, I want to thank you for your support as I continue to serve as your voice at the State Capitol.

The 2013 Legislative Session is now underway. For this session, I have been appointed to be the Vice Chairman of the Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committee, as well as a member of the Commerce and the Appropriations Committee. I have also been appointed to be the co-chair of the Appropriation's Transportation subcommittee. I am convinced that with your input and support, we can address the most pressing needs of our communities.

Best wishes for a happy and healthy 2013!



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State Representative

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## **Protecting Services in the State Budget**

The fiscal crisis that has affected many Connecticut families has also weakened the financial health of the state. I will be working to find solutions without losing the safety net of services that Connecticut families depend upon.

## **Higher Education**

Connecticut has a storied history of excellence in education but we still must strive to make our schools a top priority in 2013 as they face new challenges. Educating today's students for 21st century jobs means closely aligning vocational-technical schools and community colleges with the needs of the Connecticut workforce. It will also be my priority to act to improve our state universities' ability to provide a world class education to our students and to accomplish this goal while also working to keep a college education affordable.

There are significant challenges, but they must be overcome to ensure not only the success of our children, but also Connecticut's prosperity.

## **Job Growth is Job #1**

To keep Connecticut economically competitive with neighboring states, we must further support small business growth and job creation. Attracting businesses, training workers and providing incentives for them to remain in the state translates into a healthier local economy and better job opportunities. Consolidating and increasing tax credits for new hires, investing in emerging technologies and providing more employment for our veterans have shown great success but more needs to be done. Building a more educated workforce will allow Connecticut to thrive in the future.