

STATE REPRESENTATIVE | REPRESENTANTE ESTATAL

JOSHUA HALL

PROUDLY SERVING HARTFORD



WELFARE LIENS

Did you know that Connecticut is one of only 2 states left in the country that puts a lifetime lien against citizens who receive state assistance? In 1973 a national study concluded that Congress should prohibit all recovery in the federally funded cash assistance programs, and that states should also repeal the requirement in general state assistance. Since the study, at least 30 states have followed that recommendation, recognizing that the practice contributes to a cycle of poverty. Connecticut has not.

We do not treat other forms of state assistance such as income tax credits or corporate welfare as debts and we should not treat our assistance to our most vulnerable populations as debts either. Financial concerns have been raised, but welfare liens only represent 0.2% of Connecticut's budget.

This year a bill was raised and there was a public hearing. Like many bills it went no further after COVID-19 halted most of our legislative process. I will continue to fight to repeal this cycle of poverty enforcing practice that only 1 other state in the country still practices.

Legislative Office Building, Hartford, CT 06106-1591
860-810-0471 (cell)
joshua.hall@cga.ct.gov | www.housedems.ct.gov/Hall

STATE REPRESENTATIVE | REPRESENTANTE ESTATAL

Joshua Hall

PROUDLY SERVING HARTFORD

CAPITOL UPDATE 2020



www.facebook.com/RepHallCT

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



Dear Neighbor,

When we began this year's legislative session on February 5th, I expected to be working on many of the issues that you all have prioritized for me including reducing the cost of health insurance, making it easier to exercise your right to vote, and bringing back more support for our schools. Then, on March 8th Connecticut had its first confirmed case of coronavirus., and on March 9th, the Governor declared a state of Public Health and Civil Preparedness Emergencies. Our lives have been radically changed ever since.

My commitment to you and your family has not changed. We will get through this period and I know our state will be stronger on the other side.

This newsletter is intended to provide you with helpful information and resources, as well as an overview of some of the work my office has been doing during this time.

If you have any questions, concerns, or if I can be helpful to you in working with any state agency or understanding how any of our state laws or regulations can affect your work, our schools, or your opportunities, please call or email me anytime.

Respectfully,

Estimado vecino,

El 5 de febrero, cuando comenzamos la sesión legislativa de este año, esperaba estar trabajando en muchas de las prioridades que ustedes me han comunicado, incluyendo la reducción del costo del seguro de salud, hacer más fácil ejercer su derecho al voto, y traer de vuelta más apoyo para nuestras escuelas. El 8 de marzo, Connecticut tuvo su primer caso confirmado de coronavirus. El 9 de marzo, el Gobernador declaró estado de Emergencia de Salud Pública y Preparación Civil. Y desde entonces nuestras vidas han cambiado radicalmente

Sin embargo, mi compromiso con usted y su familia no ha cambiado. Este período pasará, y sé que al final, nuestro estado será más fuerte.

El propósito de este boletín es proveer información y recursos útiles, y resumir algunos de los proyectos que mi oficina ha estado trabajando durante este tiempo.

Si tiene alguna pregunta, inquietud, o si puedo serle útil para conectarse con cualquier agencia estatal o ayudarlo a entender cómo nuestras leyes o regulaciones estatales pueden afectar su trabajo, nuestras escuelas o sus oportunidades, por favor llame o envíeme un correo electrónico.

Respetuosamente,

CORONAVIRUS RESOURCES

*****For the most up to date information please visit:
www.ct.gov/coronavirus*****

- The CDC and Governor Lamont are continuing to require individuals to wear masks in public when you are unable to “social distance” more than 6 feet away from others.
- If you are out of work, you have the right to file for unemployment insurance. Visit www.FileCTUI.com to file your claim or call: 860-263-6975, 203-455-2653, 860-263-6974 or 203-455-2650.
- If you are a business owner, the Department of Economic and Community Development is developing and updating guidelines on safe ways to operate your business: business.ct.gov/Recovery. They have also opened a small business hotline: 860-500-2333.
- If you notice a business not operating in a safe manner, call 2-1-1.
- If you are having trouble paying your residential mortgage or rent, we have worked with banks and landlords to provide you additional time to put together payments. For more information on these programs, visit portal.ct.gov/coronavirus/information-for/homeowners-and-renters.

In addition, we have worked with the federal delegation and the Governor’s office to develop and fund a number of smaller assistance programs ranging from funding for artists to farmers, to helping our schools deal with unexpected expenditures. For more on these, please visit my website: www.housedems.ct.gov/Hall.

I know that working with state agencies and our partners during this time can be complicated. Phone lines are crowded, and applications may be confusing. My office is here to help. Call or email me anytime, and I promise I will get you help.

RECURSOS DE CORONAVIRUS

*****Para obtener información actualizada, visite:
portal.ct.gov/coronavirus*****

- El Centro para el Control y la Prevención De Enfermedades y el gobernador Lamont, siguen exigiendo que las personas usen mascarillas en público cuando usted no puede usar medidas de “distancia social” de más de 6 pies de distancia de los demás.
- Si usted está desempleado, usted tiene el derecho de solicitar un seguro de desempleo. Visite www.FileCTUI.com para llenar su reclamo o llame al: 860-263-6975, 203-455-2653, 860-263-6974 o 203-455-2650.
- Si usted es dueño de un negocio, el Departamento de Desarrollo Económico y Comunitario está desarrollando y actualizando reglas sobre formas seguras de operar su negocio: business.ct.gov/Recovery. También han abierto una línea directa para pequeños negocios: 860-500-2333.
- Si usted nota que algún negocio no está funcionando de manera apropiada, llame al 2-1-1.
- Si usted está teniendo problemas para pagar su hipoteca residencial o renta, hemos trabajado con bancos y propietarios dándole tiempo adicional para hacer sus pagos. Para obtener más información sobre estos programas, visite portal.ct.gov/coronavirus/information-for/homeowners-and-renters.

Además, hemos trabajado con la delegación federal y la oficina del Gobernador para desarrollar y financiar una serie de programas de asistencia más pequeños que van desde fondos para artistas hasta agricultores, y ayuda a nuestras escuelas para bregar con gastos inesperados. Para obtener más información sobre estos, visite www.housedems.ct.gov/Hall.

Sé que trabajar con agencias estatales y otros colaboradores durante este tiempo puede ser complicado. Las líneas telefónicas están llenas, y las aplicaciones pueden ser confusas. Mi oficina está aquí para ayudar. Llámame o envíame un correo electrónico en cualquier momento, y le prometo que le conseguiré ayuda.

ADVOCATING FOR YOU DURING THIS TIME

This has been a remarkably challenging time for all of us. My office has worked with many of you to fix issues including unemployment applications, helping your businesses apply for financial aid, and working with the DMV to get your cars registered. I know that it is during these challenging times when we need government help and services the most.

That’s why I have worked with my colleagues to advocate for all of you with the Governor and his administration. I am proud to say that because of our advocacy, we have expanded tele-medicine, brought additional drive thru & walk thru COVID-19 testing sites to our community, expanded affordable childcare options for front-line workers, and delayed due dates for state income taxes and municipal property taxes. If there are more ways that we can make state government work better for you, please let me know.

THE BOND PACKAGE

One of the few votes we took this year in the House of Representatives was for the Bond Act. I am proud to say that this legislation contained authorizations for state aid for our community. The bill also contained funds for workforce development, launching the Paid Family Medical Leave insurance program, and funding transportation improvements. It is now up to Governor Lamont and the Bond Commission to release these funds, and I will hold them to that.

HARTFORD BUDGET SUMMARY	FY 20	FY 21
LoCIP (LOCAL CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROJECT)	\$1,927,115	\$1,927,115
TOWN AID ROAD	\$1,190,578	\$1,190,578
GRANTS FOR MUNICIPAL PROJECTS	\$1,419,161	\$1,419,161
EDUCATION COST SHARING	\$205,908,195	\$209,981,742
PILOT	\$30,172,711	\$30,172,711
TOTAL STATE FUNDS TO TOWN	\$275,873,695	\$279,695,106

**SIGN UP FOR CTALERT,
THE STATE’S EMERGENCY ALERT
SYSTEM, WHICH PROVIDES
TEXT MESSAGE NOTIFICATIONS
TO USERS.**

**TO SUBSCRIBE,
TEXT THE KEYWORD
COVIDCT
TO 888-777**

ON THIS SUMMER’S SPECIAL SESSION

In early June, legislative leadership and the Governor agreed that it was time for members of the General Assembly to meet and pass reforms in response to the current crises our state faces. In addition to ensuring that our residents have the resources to avoid catching COVID-19 and are adequately supported to cope with social distancing, we intend to ensure that everyone has access to absentee ballots in the November general election. We also intend to take immediate action on police accountability and transparency legislation.

A TALE OF TWO PANDEMICS

One, COVID-19 has attacked us for 3 months, the other, Racism has attacked us for 400 years. One day there will be a vaccine for COVID-19. These extrajudicial attacks on black bodies have been with us forever. Floyd, Arberry, and Taylor are just the latest examples of the systemic racism that inhabits our police departments and criminal justice system.

Legislative Office Building, Hartford, CT 06106-1591

860-810-0471 (cell)

joshua.hall@cga.ct.gov | www.housedems.ct.gov/Hall



www.facebook.com/RepHallCT



Honoring the life of George Floyd.