



Dear Neighbor,

It remains a privilege and honor to serve as your state representative. The 2023 legislative session is in the rearview mirror, and I wanted to take a moment to check in and share some highlights from the past several months.

We worked hard to deliver a budget that adheres to our fiscal guardrails while still providing hundreds of millions in more funding to our local schools, colleges and universities, and services for our most vulnerable residents. As part of our historic tax cuts, families of four who make under \$50,000 annually will pay no state income taxes. This is another important step in making CT affordable for everyone.

We did it by working together – without the fighting you see in Washington.

I'd love to hear from you if you would like more details or have any questions on the initiatives addressed in this legislative update.

Sincerely,

## 2023 SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- Invested over \$240 million in public education
- Created a student loan forgiveness program
- Adopted anti-discrimination laws around voting
- Supported workers and small businesses



# STATE REPRESENTATIVE JOSHUA M. HALL

PROUDLY SERVING HARTFORD'S, ASSEMBLY DISTRICT 7

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## CAPITOL UPDATE 2023

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## CAPITOL UPDATE 2023

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
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## PROTECTING REPRODUCTIVE HEALTH

- Allowed pharmacists to prescribe emergency contraceptives and guaranteed their availability in cases of an emergency
- Directed all state college and university campuses to provide reproductive health resources to students
- Invested in state research and development for endometriosis treatment and prevention

## HELPING CHILDREN LIVE THEIR BEST LIVES

- Required boards of education to provide translator services and established rights for multilingual learners
- Created reimbursements to schools that purchase local foods for their school meals
- Required high schoolers to take a financial literacy class before graduating

## EDUCATION & EARLY CHILDHOOD INITIATIVES

- Empowered early childhood providers
- Increased the maximum per child cost of the school readiness programs from \$9,027 to \$10,500 to spend more on preparing our kids for school
- Allowed properly trained child care providers who stock epinephrine to administer an EpiPen to a child having a severe allergic reaction without needing to obtain prior permission

## GETTING PEOPLE BACK ON THEIR FEET

- Ensured those leaving prison have a state ID or driver's license
- Made more people convicted of a crime before age 21 eligible for parole
- Created re-entry success plans for kids getting out of correctional or judicial facilities
- Expanded assistance to refugees
- Assisted people who no longer qualify for Medicaid by providing two months of premium assistance to enroll on the health insurance exchange
- Created pilot programs for substance abuse and mental health issues at correctional facilities
- Expanded eligibility to short-term financial assistance

**HARTFORD APPROVED  
FOR OVER \$1.2 MILLION IN  
COMMUNITY  
INVESTMENT FUNDS**

# I VOTED TO CUT YOUR TAXES

## OUR STATE BUDGET INCLUDES

# \$650 MILLION IN TAX RELIEF

- ✔ Eliminated retirement taxes
- ✔ Cut property taxes for retirees
- ✔ Cut state income tax
- ✔ Extended the gas tax cut
- ✔ Extended free bus service
- ✔ Ended pension and annuity tax
- ✔ Invested in healthcare workers

## NEW CT GUN CONTROL REFORM

- Restricted open carry
- Banned ghost guns and closed existing loopholes
- Required safe storage and trigger locks
- Updated training requirements
- Strengthened penalties for failure to report lost or stolen guns

## PROTECTING RENTERS

- Increased municipal fines to \$2,000 for rental property violations (Ex: unsanitary or unsafe living conditions)
- Required landlords to offer walk-throughs prior to signing a lease
- Capped rental application fees at \$50
- Erased judicial records for renters who win eviction cases
- Capped late charges for past-due rent

## BUILDING A SKILLED WORKFORCE

- Expanded school-based apprenticeship opportunities in aviation and aerospace, training for future paraeducators, and dual credit/enrollment opportunities
- Created tax credits and incentives for towns and businesses that build workforce housing for teachers, police officers, and firefighters

## IMPROVING INFRASTRUCTURE

- \$170 million from DEEP's "Clean Water Fund" will go towards the work on the sewage infrastructure that needs to be completed in order to prevent future flooding
- An additional \$5 million in appropriations will go directly towards reimbursing homeowners and renters who experienced damage to their home as a direct result of flooding



## NEW RESPONSES TO OPIOID ADDICTION

- Established a dedicated funding source for the bulk purchase of Narcan for towns, schools, local police, health departments, and EMS companies

## MAKING CT SAFER

- Protected consumer health data by restricting its access and sale
- Banned targeted ads near mental health and reproductive health facilities
- Expanded GPS monitoring of domestic violence offenders
- Made it illegal for adults to solicit photos and videos from kids online, even if they're not explicitly sexual
- Required bright orange labels on prescription opiates
- Required trained EMTs to carry and use EpiPens