

State Representative | Deputy Majority Leader

ERNEST HEWETT

AN ACT ESTABLISHING A LAND VALUE TAXATION PILOT PROGRAM

PA 09-236 | SB 379 – EFFECTIVE FROM PASSAGE

This bill allows a municipality to tax land at a higher rate than buildings (i.e., land value taxation) on a pilot basis. The municipality must meet the bill's narrow criteria and apply to the Office of Policy and Management secretary for approval. The authorization to levy the land value tax ends five years after the municipality adopted the implementing ordinance the bill requires. The secretary must annually report to the Planning and Development Committee about the status of the land value tax beginning January 15, 2010.

State Aid to New London

PILOT: State-Owned Property	\$ 359,044
PILOT: Colleges & Hospitals	5,260,893
Pequot & Mohegan Grant	1,822,991
Public School Transportation	416,352
Non-Public School Transportation	48,207
Adult Education	1,013,818
ECS Educational Cost Sharing (ECS)	22,940,565
TOTAL (Statutory Formula Grants)	\$31,861,869



CONTACT ERNEST HEWETT
 Legislative Office Building
 Room 4040
 Hartford, CT 06106-1591
 Capitol: 800.842.1902
 Home: 860.442.9765
 Ernest.Hewett@cga.ct.gov
 www.housedems.ct.gov/Hewett



State Representative | Deputy Majority Leader
Ernest Hewett
 Proudly Serving New London | 39th District

Legislative Office Building
 Room 4040
 Hartford, CT 06106-1591
 Capitol: 800.842.1902
 Home: 860.442.9765
 Ernest.Hewett@cga.ct.gov
 www.housedems.ct.gov/Hewett



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



State Representative | Deputy Majority Leader

Ernest Hewett

Proudly Serving New London

CAPITOL NEWS 2009



I am proud that Connecticut's families gained substantial protections through the passage of numerous, important bills during the past legislative session. Even while the state's fiscal crisis dominated much of our work, The General Assembly fought hard for the people of Connecticut. From landmark health care reform legislation to bills protecting children, seniors, military families, homeowners, and students, we are providing you with the support you asked of us.

Keeping in step with President Obama's initiatives at the national level, Connecticut is taking the lead on accessible, affordable, quality health care. New laws taking effect this year also include affordable elderly homecare and a Silver Alert system for locating missing seniors, a ban on toxic chemicals in baby bottles and food, safeguards against mortgage foreclosures, blight prevention, promotion of safe green cleaning products, health insurance coverage for autism treatments, and relief for military families, among many others.

Ernest Hewett
 Deputy Majority Leader



State Representative
Ernest Hewett
Deputy Majority Leader

ASSISTING OUR SENIORS

Improving the lives of seniors so they may be healthy, safe, and economically secure is a central role of our state government. To improve their overall quality of life, we passed several new legislative initiatives.

AFFORDABLE ELDERLY HOMECARE

PA 09-64 | SB 814 – EFFECTIVE: 04.01.10

- » Expands access to affordable homecare support services
- » Helps seniors remain independent in their own homes rather than nursing homes
- » Expands personal care assistance services to more of our seniors

LOCATING MISSING SENIORS

PA 09-109 | SB 451 – EFFECTIVE: 07.01.09

- » Creates an emergency notification system similar to the Amber Alert
- » Allows law enforcement agencies to issue public alerts for missing seniors

SENIOR DISCOUNT PROGRAMS

PA 09-53 | HB 5674 – EFFECTIVE: 10.01.09

- » Provides seniors with greater access to senior citizen discount programs
- » Requires businesses to disclose details of programs and eligibility requirements

PATIENTS RIGHTS AT A NURSING HOME

PA 09-168 | SB 455 – EFFECTIVE: 10.01.09

- » Expands the Nursing Home Bill of Rights to prohibit the solicitation of donations or gifts as a condition of admission
- » Extends protections to third parties, such as families and friends

PROVIDING FOR OUR ARMED FORCES MEMBERS & THEIR FAMILIES

The service and sacrifices of our Armed Forces members must always be valued and honored. This session we passed several new laws to aid them and their families.

BEHAVIORAL HEALTH SERVICES

PA 09-10 | HB 6406 – EFFECTIVE: Upon passage

- » Ensures that members of the armed forces can receive transitional behavioral health services
- » Applies to families and dependents of armed forces members as well

RELIEF FOR MILITARY FAMILIES

PA 09-163 | HB 6394 – EFFECTIVE: Upon passage

- » Expands the Military Family Relief Fund
- » Allows immediate relatives of members not on active duty to receive benefits
- » Provides grants to pay for essential personal or household items when in hardship



KEEPING OUR CHILDREN SAFE & HEALTHY

New London's children need our protection from the numerous harms that exist. This legislative session I worked hard with my colleagues to pass legislation to do just that.

BANNING TOXIC CHEMICALS

PA 09-103 | HB 6572 – EFFECTIVE: 10.01.09

- » Bans bisphenol-A BPA, an industrial chemical with toxic properties
- » Baby bottles and food and beverage containers will be safer for kids

PREVENTING CARDIAC ARREST IN SCHOOLS

PA 09-94 | SB 981 – EFFECTIVE: 07.01.09

- » Requires each school to have an automatic external defibrillator AED
- » Provides training to school staff for its use and for CPR

GREEN CLEANING PRODUCTS

PA 09-81 | HB 6496 – EFFECTIVE: 10.01.09

- » Promotes use of safe green cleaning products
- » Hazardous cleaning chemicals currently used in most schools will be replaced
- » Requires schools to implement a green cleaning program

HEALTH INSURANCE FOR AUTISM TREATMENTS

PA 09-115 | SB 301 – EFFECTIVE: 01.01.10

Requires insurance coverage of critical treatments and benefits that will greatly help the lives of people with autism.

These treatments are:

- » The diagnosis to determine if an individual has an autism spectrum disorder
- » Behavioral therapies to children 14 years old or younger including, but not limited to, applied behavior analysis and cognitive behavioral therapy
- » Prescription drugs
- » Psychiatric and psychological services
- » Physical and occupational therapy
- » Speech and language pathology services

The results are:

- » Higher quality of life for the individual
- » Decrease in lifetime costs of treatment
- » Connecticut has become the 12th state to require this comprehensive coverage

PROTECTING YOUR HOME, SAVINGS, & CREDIT

We took action to aid consumers hurt by recent events and protect you from:

- » The recent sub-prime mortgage crisis
- » Corrupt money managers like Bernie Madoff

SAFEGUARDS AGAINST MORTGAGE FORECLOSURES

PA 09-209 | SB 948 – EFFECTIVE: 07.01.09/10.01.09

- » Implements federal reforms
- » Creates many new safeguards against future mortgage foreclosures to better protect homeowners
- » Regulates the mortgage lending process
- » Expands eligibility for state foreclosure prevention programs

PROTECTING COLLEGE STUDENTS' CREDIT

PA 09-167 | HB 6483 – EFFECTIVE: 07.01.09

- » Requires the Board of Governors of Higher Education to adopt policies
- » Regulates credit card marketing practices on public college campuses
- » Protects young consumers from being unfairly targeted

EMERGENCY MORTGAGE ASSISTANCE

PA 09-219 | HB 6481 – EFFECTIVE: 07.01.09/10.01.09

- » Expands eligibility for the Emergency Mortgage Assistance Program
- » Assists more families so that their loss of income due to illness or job-loss won't result in a family losing their home

PREVENTING BLIGHT

PA 09-144 | SB 951 – EFFECTIVE: 10.01.09

- » Remedies blighted properties created by the foreclosure crisis
- » Provides maintenance to improve vacant foreclosed properties
- » Allows municipalities to enforce the requirement to repair or maintain vacant real estate using current laws

PUBLIC SAFETY

Keeping the public safe and secure in our neighborhoods and on our streets is one of the key functions of government. This session, we made several advancements to protecting the public pathways.



CONTACT **ERNEST HEWETT**
Legislative Office Building
Room 4040
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

Capitol: 800.842.1902
Home: 860.442.9765
Ernest.Hewett@cga.ct.gov
www.housedems.ct.gov/Hewett