

The 2024 legislative session is in the books and I am proud of what we accomplished.

We focused on big issues in 2024:

- Elder care improvement, access & transparency
- Expansion of debt-free community college & investment in public education
- Expanding childcare & early childhood nutrition access
- Paid time off for full and part-time workers
- Preserved historic state tax cuts we fought for last year

For additional specifics about what is highlighted here, please scan the QR code below or reach out to my office.

I remain filled with deep gratitude and pride to serve as your state representative.

Peace,

State Representative Anne Hughes
135th House District

2024 MAJOR PUBLIC ACTS

2024 SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- Providing Quality Care for Seniors
- Maintaining Historic Tax Cuts
- Making Childcare More Affordable and Accessible
- Maintaining CT's Future Fiscal Integrity

REPRESENTATIVE LINE HUGHES

REDDING **EASTON, WESTON** SERVING **PROUDLY**



Representative Hughes egislative Office Building, Room 40

CAPITOL 2024 UPDATE



FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE ANNE HUGHES

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OUR BIPARTISAN BUDGET INCLUDES

PROTECTING TAX CUTS

WE PASSED A BIPARTISAN BIENNIUM BUDGET THAT INCLUDES HISTORIC TAX CUTS AND INVESTMENTS FOR OUR COMMUNITY.

- LARGEST INCOME TAX CUT in state history
- Biggest investment in public education ever
- New supports for the IDD community
- Expansion of debt free community college
- Protected safety net programs

THIS SESSION WE PROTECTED THESE TAX CUTS AND INVESTED MILLIONS OF FEDERAL FUNDS IN:

- Higher Education \$160 million with a path to grow to \$200 million
- Early Childcare \$21.8 million
- Mental Health \$24 million
- Nonprofits \$50 million

FIRST RESPONDERS AND VETERANS

- Exempted permanently and totally disabled veterans from paying property taxes
- Made it easier for veterans to earn a Q license endorsement to join fire departments
- Expanded eligibility for grants from the Military Relief Fund for families experiencing hardship
- Banned paperwork and payment requirements for receiving critical ambulance rides
- Established a Fallen Officer Fund to assist families of police officers who died in the line of duty
- Toughened penalties for killing a police dog

PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT AND CLEAN ENERGY INITIATIVES

- Banned numerous products containing dangerous PFAS chemicals
- Required better notice when herbicides are sprayed along railroads
- Expedited permitting for solar canopies and lifted caps on new solar production
- Increased hydropower going to our power grid and extended offshore wind procurement
- Required the Connecticut Siting Council to hear from municipalities before granting a certificate for a transmission line project

GROWING OUR ECONOMY & WORKFORCE

- Made it easier for out-of-state nurses and social workers to move to and practice in CT
- Cut certification red tape to make licensing faster and enable teachers to teach more subjects across more grades
- Expanded eligibility in the fast-track certification of teachers program
- Made it easier for industry experts to teach in our tech schools
- Invests in teachers and assistant teachers in state-funded school readiness programs and state-funded childcare programs
- Supported working families by granting most full and part-time workers access to paid sick days









CT'S HEALTH AND WELLNESS & KEEPING OUR COMMUNITIES SAFE

- Excluded medical debt from counting against your credit score
- Allowed telehealth to continue for in-state and out-of-state residents
- Allowed pharmacists to give opioid disposal systems when dispensing opioids
- Strengthened hospitals' defenses against cyberattacks
- Protected the personal information of special victims like minors and victims of abuse from public disclosures
- Protected domestic violence victims from being forced into debt by their abuser
- Strengthened inspections and regulation of youth camps
- Established new Bureau of Services for persons who are deaf, deafblind, and hard of hearing, helping expand access to certified interpreters

QUALITY CARE FOR SENIORS

- Created a nursing home database to connect seniors with quality care
- Established oversight to prevent negligence and abuse and added incentives to encourage nursing homes to improve care
- Enacted requirements for nursing home facilities to be more transparent and strengthened oversight
- Piloting a presumptive eligibility program that will allow people to access home-based care in lieu of going into a nursing home (potentially saving \$10-20 million annually)
- Required home care workers to wear photo-ID badges
- Created a new registry system to connect patients to home care providers and created a dashboard to help navigate nursing home options
- Prevented nursing homes from putting more than two patients in a single room