

Working as your state representative in Hartford is an immense privilege, and I am pleased with the results we delivered for Norwalk and Westport.

Our priorities this session emphasized the value of our residents and the hopes we have for Connecticut's future. Throughout the signature acts was an emphasis on senior citizens, healthcare, the environment, early learning, and childcare. We accomplished these victories working with advocates, agencies, and across the aisle to represent the interests of all viewpoints.

A key piece of legislation leveraged federal ARPA funds for unprecedented investment in major areas: higher education, childcare, mental health, and nonprofits. Additionally, we closed this fiscal year with a \$270 million operating surplus after depositing \$1.1 billion in the Rainy Day Fund and our pension systems. Connecticut continues to critically invest in common goods while retaining the largest tax cuts in state history.

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.



## FUNDING FOR NORWALK & WESTPORT

- \$5,000,000 in Municipal Aid for Norwalk.
- \$3,444,751 to the Norwalk Housing Authority.
- \$3,000,000 to the Norwalk Redevelopment Agency.
- \$2,500,000 for Sherwood Island State Park.
- \$1,261,768 to renovate the George Washington Carver Center.
- \$569,323 for Star, Inc. for ADA compliant covered ramps.
- \$375,000 for Waterford Upstart Early Learning Program.
- \$300,000 to the Music Theater of Connecticut.
- \$146,817 for the Westport Police Department.



## STATE REPRESENTATIVE DOMINIQUE JOHNSON

PROUDLY SERVING NORWALK AND WESTPORT



## CAPITOL UPDATE 24

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## CAPITOL UPDATE 2024

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE

## DOMINIQUE JOHNSON

PROUDLY SERVING NORWALK  
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## STATE REPRESENTATIVE

# DOMINIQUE JOHNSON

## CAPITOL UPDATE 2024

### SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- Increasing Assistance for Seniors
- Cutting Taxes to Combat Historic Inflation
- Keeping CT Safe with Juvenile Justice Reform
- Bolstering Reproductive Freedoms
- Creating Environmentally Conscious Initiatives
- Maintaining CT's Future Fiscal Integrity



### CHILDCARE

- \$21.8 million secured for early childcare.
- Expanded the childcare incubator program.
- Hosted early literacy roundtable with Early Childhood Commissioner Bye, the State Library, and local stakeholders.

### PUBLIC SAFETY

- Established a Fallen Officers Fund to provide families of police officers who died in the line of duty with cash assistance and health care coverage.

### NUTRITION

- Improved coordination across state agencies and streamlined the process for residents to access nutrition programs - encouraging farmers' markets to participate in these programs.

### CLIMATE

- Banned numerous products containing dangerous PFAS chemicals.
- Required better notice when herbicides are sprayed along railroads.

### VETERANS

- Exempted permanently and totally disabled veterans from paying property taxes, honoring their sacrifice for our communities.
- Expanded eligibility for grants from the Military Relief Fund for families experiencing hardship.



#### 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



### SUPPORTING SENIORS

- Expedited Medicaid coverage for home-based care as an alternative to more costly nursing home care.
- Prevented nursing homes from putting more than two patients in a single room.
- 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.
- Strengthened oversight of negligent nursing homes.
- Required nursing homes and retirement communities to provide at least 60-90 days' notice of any fee increases and improved transparency around fees.