

SPECIAL EDUCATION

- Made a historic investment for our students in special education, ensuring our reimbursement grant for high-needs students is funded at its highest level in Connecticut history.
- Established a new Special Education Expansion and Development (SEED) grant program based on school needs to help build local capacity so more students can be served closer to home.
- Increased state funding for local capital improvements related to special education.



The 2025 legislative session featured big issues like lowering energy bills, childcare costs, funding special education and passing a state budget that puts families first – and we tackled them all.

Our budget provides a \$250 check for working families under EITC guidelines and \$300 million to fund the childcare trust fund. We devoted hundreds of millions of dollars to special education and approved comprehensive energy legislation to reduce electric bills for businesses and families.

“Connecticut will be poised to continue saving hundreds of millions of dollars annually to continue paying down its hefty pension debt at an accelerated pace.”

-CT Mirror

And we did it responsibly. This newsletter has more details about the 2025 legislative session. I remain filled with deep gratitude and pride to be your state representative.

All my best,



NEW LAWS IN CT: A YEAR IN REVIEW

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE DOMINIQUE JOHNSON

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Representative Dominique Johnson
Legislative Office Building, Room 4100
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

CAPITOL UPDATE 25

CAPITOL UPDATE 2025

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE

DOMINIQUE JOHNSON

PROUDLY SERVING NORWALK & WESTPORT

CONTACT ME ANY TIME:

- 860-240-8585
- Dominique.Johnson@cga.ct.gov
- housedems.ct.gov/JohnsonD
- facebook.com/StateRepJohnson



STATE REPRESENTATIVE DOMINIQUE JOHNSON

CAPITOL UPDATE 2025



BIG WINS FOR NORWALK & WESTPORT

- Cut Your Electric Bill
- Provided Millions for Special Education
- \$250 Tax Credit for Working Families
- Made Childcare More Affordable and Accessible

A BALANCED BUDGET AND OUR SECOND-LARGEST SURPLUS IN STATE HISTORY

THANKS TO SOUND BUDGETING AND THE LEADERSHIP OF DEMOCRATS IN THE STATE LEGISLATURE WE:

- Delivered Single Greatest Investment in Children in Connecticut's History
- Made Historic Investments in Special Education

WE DELIVERED TARGETED, MEANINGFUL RELIEF AND LONG-TERM SUPPORT FOR WORKING FAMILIES THROUGH FAIRER TAX POLICIES:

- Established an Enhanced Tax Credit for Families
- Supported Childcare Providers
- Helped Families Save For College
- Expanded Capital for Special Education Infrastructure
- Invested in Our Workforce and Residents



MAJOR INITIATIVES AFFECTING NORWALK & WESTPORT

PUBLIC SAFETY

- Expanded our Fallen Officer Fund to now include the families of firefighters, EMT personnel, and paramedics killed in the line of duty so that they can receive cash benefits and health insurance coverage.
- Increased penalties for street racing and takeovers, including two-year license suspensions.
- Prohibited abusers from accessing the location of shelters and temporary housing under state freedom of information laws and helped victims of domestic violence protect their GPS data from their abuser.
- Prohibited various forms of discrimination based on someone's status as a sexual assault or human trafficking victim.

ELECTRIC BILLS

- Passed comprehensive reforms for ratepayers, delivering \$780 million in savings over the next few years.
- Moved programmatic charges out of your bill and created better oversight of new charges.
- Capped infrastructure programs that utility companies make us pay for while they profit off the interest.
- Used state financing to pay down COVID-era back payments and storm-related costs, which would otherwise be passed onto ratepayers.

CLIMATE

- Bolstered clean energy jobs through tax incentives and rebates for CT companies.
- Encouraged nature-based solutions for reaching greenhouse gas reduction goals and flooding mitigation.
- Supported our benefit corporations (B Corps) with vouchers for their registration and renewal fees.
- Prioritized lower energy costs for families and businesses and increased community resilience to extreme weather events like flooding or extreme heat.

VETERANS

- Improved access to capital and job creation among our veterans by prioritizing disabled veteran entrepreneurs in the Small Business Express loan program.
- Excluded veterans' pension benefits from income eligibility determinations under HUSKY A & D, Medicaid, Medicare Savings Program, and CEAP.
- Extended tuition waivers to exempt some hidden fees at public colleges and universities for veterans and National Guard members.
- Designated June 12 as Women's Veterans Day.