



ED JUTILA

State Representative ~ 37th District

Public Safety

This session was my first year as Vice-Chairman of the Public Safety Committee. As a former active volunteer firefighter, I was honored to receive this appointment and am very proud of some of the legislation we were able to pass. I look forward to continuing to work to enhance public safety during the next session.



Crisis Response Drills

In order to better prepare our children for a variety of emergencies, we passed legislation that will require schools every 3 months to substitute a crisis response drill for monthly fire drills.

Safety in Our Schools

Newly adopted legislation will promote the availability and use by trained staff of Automatic External Defibrillators. Companion legislation grants immunity from liability to those who use life-saving AEDs in good faith. This should pave the way for further legislation requiring AEDs in high risk locations such as health clubs.

Shielding Firefighters Installing Smoke Detectors from Liability

This legislation provides immunity from liability to fire departments that install smoke and carbon monoxide detectors in accordance with the manufacturer's instructions at no cost to the homeowner.

Exposure To Infectious Diseases & Emergency Responders

This bill requires hospitals to notify emergency service organizations such as ambulance companies, when a patient is treated, assisted, handled, or transported to the hospital and diagnosed with infectious pulmonary tuberculosis.

Rep. Jutila confers with State Representative Theresa Conroy of Seymour.



CONTACT ED JUTILA

Legislative Office Building
Room 4046

Hartford, CT 06106-1591

Capitol: 800.842.8367

Home: 860.739.7730

Email: Ed.Jutila@cga.ct.gov

www.housedems.ct.gov/Jutila



State Representative | Assistant Majority Leader

Ed JUTILA

Proudly Serving East Lyme ~ Salem | 37th District

CONTACT ED JUTILA

Legislative Office Building
Room 4046

Hartford, CT 06106-1591

Capitol: 800-842-8367

Home: 860-739-7730

Email: Ed.Jutila@cga.ct.gov

www.housedems.ct.gov/Jutila



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



Dear Friends & Neighbors:

In the shadow of a worldwide economic crisis, and facing a projected \$8.5 billion deficit, the adoption of a new two year budget dominated this year's legislative session. After months of public hearings, committee action and negotiations between legislative leaders and Governor Rell, the General Assembly adopted a budget during a summer-long special session.

Meanwhile, we were also busy crafting other legislation protecting children, helping seniors, supporting military families, assisting small businesses and improving the environment. We also took steps to improve public safety and reform our probate court system. And while the debate still goes on in Washington, Connecticut took major steps toward making quality healthcare more accessible and affordable.

In this newsletter, I have highlighted some of the key bills that we passed this year, as well as some news of local interest. I hope you find it useful and informative. As always, please feel free to call or e-mail me if you have any questions or comments on this year's session, the budget, or any other matter.

Sincerely,

2009 CAPITOL NEWS

State Representative | Assistant Majority Leader

Ed JUTILA

Proudly Serving East Lyme ~ Salem | 37th District



CONTACT ED JUTILA
 Legislative Office Building
 Room 4046
 Hartford, CT 06106-1591
 Capitol: 800.842.8367
 Home: 860.739.7730
 Email: Ed.Jutila@cga.ct.gov
 www.housedems.ct.gov/Jutila

Rep. Jutila bringing out legislation on the floor of House.



Rep. Jutila confers with Speaker of the House Chris Donovan during legislative session.



State Representative ED JUTILA

Proudly Serving East Lyme and Salem | 37th District

Local News



Shore Line East

Over the past several years I have made expanded Shore Line East rail service one of my priorities. I am pleased to report that service to New London is expected to begin by the end of this year. Currently, service ends in Old Saybrook. I have also been exploring with the Department of Transportation Commissioner and other rail experts the possibility of establishing a new train station in Niantic, and would be interested in obtaining your thoughts.

Boy Scout Coffee Stop

Legislation adopted this year opened the door for local Boy Scouts once again to conduct their 24 hour Labor Day Weekend Coffee Stop at the scales on I-95. A decision by the State Department of Transportation last year prohibiting the scouts from operating around the clock broke a 25 year tradition of service to motorists. I am pleased that the scouts were able to resume their proud tradition this year.



Update on Route 11

The Connecticut Department of Transportation recently announced that it is suspending work on the Route 11 mitigation plan and engineering analysis while it reviews and re-prioritizes existing programs. This is very disappointing news, particularly in light of the many statements by Governor Rell expressing her commitment to the project over the past several years. Area legislators, local officials and Congressman Courtney met recently with the Department of Transportation Commissioner to express disappointment with the decision and urge its reversal.

Officer Cordell Memorial Highway

At the request of the Salem Board of Selectmen and local firefighters, legislation approved by the General Assembly designates a portion of roadway on Route 82 in Salem the "Officer H. David Cordell Memorial Highway" in honor of the much admired and respected late police officer.

Providing for our Military and their Families

MILITARY RELIEF FUND

- PA 09-163 | HB 6394 EFFECTIVE FROM 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

SUPPORT FOR MILITARY FAMILIES

- PA 09-70 | SB 710 EFFECTIVE FROM PASSAGE
- » expands the state Family and Medical Leave Act
 - » permits employees to take up to 26 weeks of unpaid leave from work to care for injured family members who are in the military

Assisting our Seniors

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

ELDERLY HOMECARE

- PA 09-64 | SB 814 – EFFECTIVE: 04.01.10
- » expands access to affordable homecare, support services and personal care assistance services to more of our seniors
 - » helps seniors remain independent in their own homes rather than nursing homes

SILVER ALERT

- PA 09-109 | SB 451 – EFFECTIVE: 07.01.09
- » allows law enforcement agencies to issue public alerts for missing seniors
 - » creates an emergency notification system similar to the Amber Alert

SENIOR DISCOUNTS

- 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

Reforming Healthcare

Over 750,000 Connecticut residents went without health insurance at one point during 2007 or 2008. This year, we took major steps toward controlling costs and reforming our broken healthcare system.

SUSTINET

- PA 09-148 | HB 6600 EFFECTIVE 07.01.09
- » provides a framework for expanding high quality coverage to more residents
 - » establishes an eleven-member board of healthcare providers and experts
 - » explores new public health insurance options that would be more affordable
 - » creates a framework for us to take full advantage of any federal reforms

IMPROVING CARE FOR LYME DISEASE

- PA 09-128 | HB 6200 EFFECTIVE 07.01.09
- » gives doctors and patients a new treatment option for chronic Lyme disease
 - » permits the use of long-term antibiotic therapy to treat infection and symptoms

Protecting Our Environment

Connecticut's natural beauty is one of the state's treasures that must be maintained and protected. This year, we continued to take important steps to protect our environmental heritage for future generations.

PROTECTING LONG ISLAND SOUND

- PA 09-151 | SB 1078 EFFECTIVE 07.01.09
- » creates a bi-state commission to review environmental, ecological, & energy issues
 - » fosters cooperative protection of Long Island Sound and the lower Hudson River Valley

DAIRY FARM ASSISTANCE

- PA 09-229 | SB 891 EFFECTIVE 07.01.09
- » dedicates funds to assist and preserve Connecticut dairy farms
 - » helps Connecticut dairy farms to remain competitive with out-of-state farms

Protecting Our Children

Keeping our children 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 protect our children.

SAFEGUARDS AGAINST SEX OFFENDERS

- PA 09-199 | SB 533 EFFECTIVE 09.01.09
- » requires the Department of Public Safety to notify the superintendent of schools in communities where sex offenders live or plan to live

BANNING TOXIC CHEMICALS

- PA 09-103 | HB 6572 EFFECTIVE 10.01.11
- » bans bisphenol-A (BPA), an industrial chemical with toxic properties
 - » baby bottles and food and beverage containers will be safer for kids

Improving Government Efficiency

SMALL BUSINESS IMPACT STATEMENTS

- PA 09-19 | HB 5930 - EFFECTIVE 10.01.09
- » requires any state agency proposing a regulation to identify the way the proposal would affect small businesses
 - » requires state agencies to notify the public, as well as the Commerce Committee about proposed regulations that could adversely affect small businesses

PROBATE COURT REFORM

- PA 09-1 HB 7001 - EFFECTIVE 01.05.11
- » reduces the total number of probate courts from 117 to 54 to make the courts more efficient and sustainable and saves \$8 million annually
 - » East Lyme, Salem, Old Lyme and Montville will constitute a single district

ENCOURAGING REGIONALISM

- PA 09-231 | HB 6585 EFFECTIVE 10.01.09
- » allows towns to enter into mutual agreements for regional economic development
 - » allows towns to share property tax revenue from new developments

RESULTS BASED ACCOUNTABILITY

Four years ago, we began working on this initiative to bring more transparency to our state's budgeting process, and greater efficiency to state government. Though we have met resistance from some who would prefer the status quo, we are still pushing forward and are now in Phase II of the implementation of this important practice.