

Dear Neighbor,

It is an honor representing you in the CT General Assembly. I've had the unique honor and responsibility to serve as the House Chair of the Education Committee. This session we made historic investments in education (\$190 million) and municipal aid (\$100 million) to alleviate property tax burdens and invested another \$300 million into the Early Childcare and Education Endowment to support our young families.

We enacted consumer protections around AI, enabled plug-in solar to give households more energy choices, and passed universal free school breakfast. Voters demanded better access to absentee ballots, and we ensured their voices were heard passing no excuse absentee voting.

This newsletter has more details about the good work we accomplished from the 2026 session. As always, please never hesitate to contact me with your thoughts, concerns, and ideas at jennifer.leeper@cga.ct.gov.

Enjoy,

Jennifer Leeper



STATE REPRESENTATIVE

JENNIFER LEEPER

PROUDLY SERVING FAIRFIELD AND SOUTHPORT

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CAPITOL UPDATE 2026

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CAPITOL UPDATE 2026



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WINS FOR FAIRFIELD

- Secured 75% (\$57 million) reimbursement for the Dwight School rebuild (PA 26-68)
- Secured nearly \$18 million in state aid for Fairfield to help offset property taxes (PA 26-68)
- Delivered \$1 million for Tomlinson HVAC upgrades (PA 26-68)
- Prevented school redistricting by pausing the racial imbalance law (PA 26-1)

RAISING STANDARDS IN THE CLASSROOM

- Created a Civics Seal of Education and Engagement to promote and reward civics engagement (PA 26-1)
- Expanded the pathways to becoming a teacher and the scholarship opportunities available to aspiring educators (PA 26-149)
- Reformed crisis response drills to ensure there isn't another lockdown generation (PA 26-1)

IMPROVING AFFORDABILITY

- Allocated \$100 million in municipal aid to mitigate property tax increases (PA 26-68)
- Expanded sales tax-free week to include clothing, shoes, and backpacks under \$300 (PA 26-68)
- Paid \$1 billion toward pension debt to reduce long-term taxpayer burdens (PA 26-68)

LEGISLATIVE HIGHLIGHTS

- Supported clean, affordable energy by approving plug-in solar (PA 26-127)
- Implemented nation-leading guardrails around AI use (PA 26-15)
- Protected Connecticut residents from harmful federal immigration enforcement policies (PA 26-14)
- Bolstered efforts to connect veterans with employment opportunities (PA 26-12)

SUPPORTING OUR SENIORS

- Created a family caregiver tax credit for residents caring for a loved one (PA 26-68)
- Required staff at assisted living agencies to receive annual training on residents' fear of retaliation, so seniors can freely speak up about their care (PA 26-44)
- Required assisted living facilities to give 60 days' notice before any fee increase (PA 26-74)

INVESTING IN EDUCATION

- \$190 million in additional direct support for schools (PA 26-68)
- \$12 million to establish universal free school breakfast programs across the state (PA 26-68)
- Invested \$300 million in the Early Childhood Education Endowment (PA 26-68)

