

# The Connecticut General Assembly



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## **REP. LESSER SELECTED FOR ELITE POLICY FELLOWSHIP**

**State Representative Matthew Lesser (D – Middletown)** has been named a 2015-2016 Marshall Memorial Fellow by the German Marshall Fund (GMF) of the United States. Rep. Lesser is one of just 76 new fellows selected from a total 700 nominees from 39 countries.

He is the only state official in the United States to have received the prestigious fellowship, the flagship leadership program of the German Marshall Fund.

The Marshall Memorial Fellowship is a leadership development program accepting global leaders from business, government, academia and civil society interested in strengthening the transatlantic partnership. Fellows engage in 6 months of work to increase understanding of transatlantic relations before taking part in 24 days of policy immersion overseas in the spirit of the Marshall Plan.

“Family and cultural ties and a rich history of immigration bridge the ocean for so many families in Connecticut. But the transatlantic partnership is about more than culture - it’s about trade, advanced manufacturing, renewable energy and the jet engines that power Connecticut’s economic growth,” Rep. Lesser said.

“This is an honor and frankly a thrill and I’m deeply grateful to have been nominated by Majority Leader Joe Aresimowicz for this prestigious fellowship,” he added.

“I couldn’t think of a better person to nominate for this fellowship,” said **Majority Leader Joe Aresimowicz (D-Berlin/Southington)**. “Matt’s leadership skills and vast array of knowledge about the legislative process will make him a great asset to the group of selected fellows.”

This year’s fellows represent 21 European countries and 17 U.S. states. Fellows include high ranking members of the Obama Administration, business executives, members of the German and Ukrainian Parliaments, the Executive Director of the Hungarian Civil Liberties Union, and the Mayor of Slupsk, Poland. You can view all 76 fellows [here](#).

For more information on the Marshall Memorial Fellowship and the German Marshall Fund visit [www.gmfus.org](http://www.gmfus.org).

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*State Representative Matt Lesser is serving his fourth term representing the 100<sup>th</sup> district of Middletown. He serves as Chair of the Banking Committee and as a member of both the Appropriations and the Government Administration and Elections Committees.*