



**DEAR NEIGHBOR:**

I am proud to serve as your Representative at the State Capitol. This year, I had the honor of being asked to serve as Assistant Majority Leader. We faced many challenges, from a budget shortfall to Hurricane Sandy, but none greater than the horrific massacre at Sandy Hook Elementary School. We came together as a state and accomplished a great deal to make Connecticut a stronger, safer, better place to live.

As your State Representative, my job is to represent you and nothing makes me prouder than solving problems for residents of Middletown. Feel free to call me any time at my home in Middletown at 860-344-1230 if I can be of any assistance.

Sincerely,



STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**Matt Lesser**  
PROUDLY SERVING MIDDLETOWN | 100TH DISTRICT

Legislative Office Building  
Hartford, CT 06106-1591  
Capitol: 800-842-8267  
Matthew.Lesser@cga.ct.gov  
www.housedems.ct.gov/Lesser

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



**CAPITOL UPDATE 2013**

State Representative  
**Matt Lesser**

Legislative Office Building  
Hartford, CT 06106-1591  
Capitol: 800-842-8267  
Matthew.Lesser@cga.ct.gov  
www.housedems.ct.gov/Lesser



**THE LARGEST INVESTMENT IN MIDDLESEX COMMUNITY COLLEGE IN DECADES**

Community colleges are one of the last affordable options for higher education and Middlesex Community College is the most crowded college in all of Connecticut. So this year, Rep. Matt Lesser promised to make expanding Middlesex Community College his top priority. On July 1, Governor Malloy signed into law SB 842 which authorizes \$44 million for the largest single investment in the college in a generation. "I want to thank Representative Matt Lesser for his unstinting support of Middlesex Community College," said Middlesex President Anna Wasescha.



Thanks to Rep. Matt Lesser Middlesex Community College will see a huge new investment.

**REBUILDING THE MIDDLE CLASS**

Partnering with local banks and credit unions, Rep. Lesser passed legislation establishing a "prize-linked savings program" to encourage working families to get into the habit of saving. The program gives people the chance to win a cash prize every time they put money away in a savings account.

This year, Connecticut residents will see an increase in the minimum wage. This law allows these individuals to earn approximately \$900 more a year, if they work full-time. Rep. Lesser believes raising the minimum wage will help low wage earners and boost Middletown economies.

**HONORED BY AARP**

"Lowering our electric rates is the most important thing we can do to protect seniors and create jobs," Rep. Matt Lesser says.

Working with the AARP, Rep. Lesser led a bipartisan coalition that blocked efforts to auction off your electric service to fly-by-night companies without your consent. He killed proposals to allow the phone companies to cut off your phone service.

Rep. Lesser was honored for his efforts in 2013 by AARP this month.



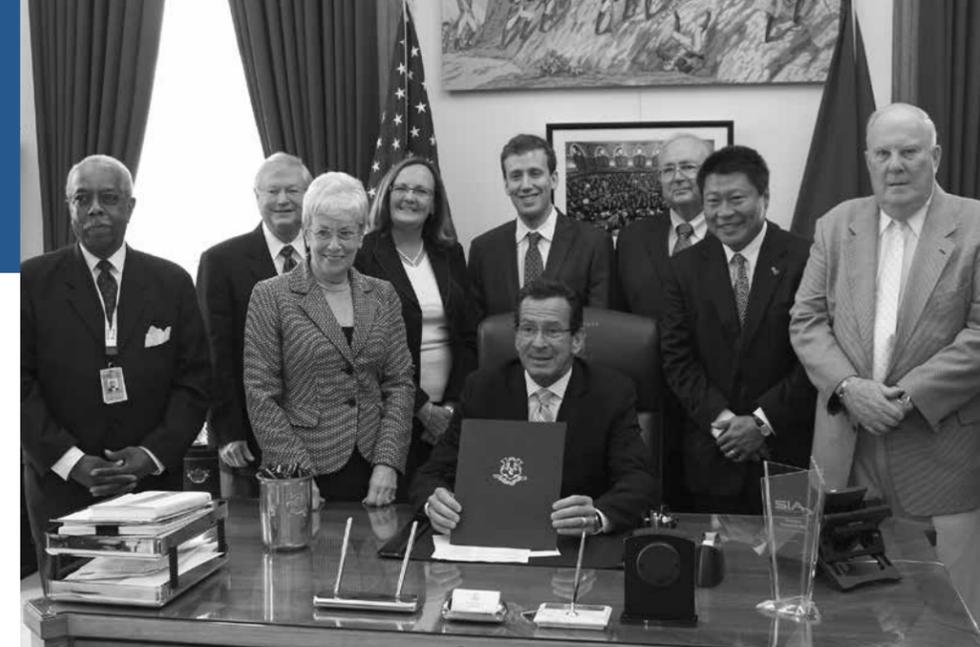
Rep. Matt Lesser leads an AARP Press conference fighting for consumers.

**STANDING UP FOR PEOPLE WITH DISABILITIES**

1 in 4 people either have or have an immediate family member who has a disability. Working with business, nonprofits, disability advocates and organized labor, Rep. Matt Lesser led the fight in the State House to pass legislation setting aside one third of janitorial jobs in state buildings for folks living with disabilities. These are high paying jobs with benefits that will make it easier for people with disabilities to have the dignity of steady employment and financial security.

**Let's Keep In Touch**

Sign Up For Email Updates:  
[housedems.ct.gov/Lesser](http://housedems.ct.gov/Lesser)  
[Matthew.Lesser@cga.ct.gov](mailto:Matthew.Lesser@cga.ct.gov)



Rep. Matt Lesser looks on as Governor Malloy signs a strong new ethics law.

**CLEANING UP STATE GOVERNMENT**

"We need to renew folks' trust in government and restore confidence in the integrity of state services." As a leader of the Government Administration and Elections Committee, Rep. Matt Lesser took on special interests and passed the first major ethics bill to pass the legislature in seven years. It cracks down hard on corrupt contractors and closes loopholes that allowed crooked officials to evade justice.

**ALL IN FOR MIDDLETOWN**

- A leader on the Appropriations Committee, Rep. Matt Lesser successfully fought to return more of our tax dollars to Middletown and the **Middletown Public Schools**.
- Rep. Lesser worked to secure tax credits to help finance construction of the new Middletown **Eckersley Hall Senior Center**.
- Thanks to Rep. Lesser, the Northern Middlesex **YMCA** will continue to receive funding for kids' afterschool projects, Rep. Lesser led the fight to save the **Bielefield School** Family School Connection Program, school-based health centers across Middletown and the **Even Start** program.
- Rep. Lesser secured a major grant for the North End Farmer's Market and, partnering with the **North End Action Team**, secured \$120,000 to stop the cycle of violence on our streets.