

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

# DOUGLAS MCCRORY

HARTFORD | 7TH HOUSE DISTRICT

## LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

Dear Neighbor,

I thought I would reach out about issues that I hope to address during the 2014 legislative session. I will continue to work on education issues, especially relating to Hartford students. I would also like to address the mass incarceration of minorities in Connecticut and the inequality associated with this. In addition, there is also information regarding Access Health CT, our state healthcare exchange. If you don't have insurance, I highly encourage you to contact them and figure out the best plan for you and your family. Over 150,000 Connecticut residents have utilized Access Health CT.

Please know that I am honored to be your State Representative and to represent the district where I grew up and now live with my family. I do my best when Hartford residents reach out to me about issues that are important to them. Please continue to send emails to [douglas.mccrory@cga.ct.gov](mailto:douglas.mccrory@cga.ct.gov). I will always listen to your voices as I make decisions about how to vote and what bills will best help the 7th Assembly District.

Sincerely,

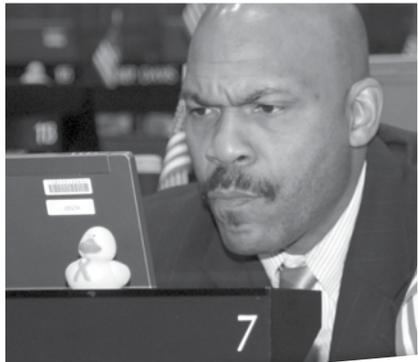


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# STATE REPRESENTATIVE **DOUGLAS MCCRORY**

7TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

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## **EQUALITY IN EDUCATION**

It has always been my belief that a good education is essential for the future success of our children. We as a legislature need to make sure that every child in Connecticut is receiving a first-class education. After-school programs are almost, if not equally, as important as being in school as they reinforce lessons learned, encourage self-esteem and afford another option to youth as opposed to taking a wrong turn in life. I believe we need to take action and focus on the education and well-being of our youth, especially African-American and Latino males.

During the 2013 legislative session, I was able to secure \$1 million in funding for youth services programs. The money assists local groups who are providing alternative paths for our kids including the Wilson-Gray YMCA Youth and Family Center, Blue Hills Civic Association, the Hartford Knights Youth Organization and the Ebony Horsewomen, Inc. I will continue to work to improve our education system and to help local organizations that offer effective programs geared towards helping at-risk youth within our communities because positive efforts lead towards future success.

## **ACCESS HEALTH CT**

Access Health Connecticut is the state's health care exchange, created by the Affordable Care Act. The deadline to choose a policy is March 31st. If you enroll before then, your healthcare coverage should begin within six weeks of enrolling. If not, open enrollment for 2015 begins November 1, 2014 and ends February 15, 2015. You can visit their website at [www.accesshealthct.com](http://www.accesshealthct.com) or call 1-855-805-4325 for further information. Be sure to have the following information readily available in order to make the process easier: birth certificate, social security number, current identification, proof of citizenship, employment information, verification of income, etc...

## **MASS INCARCERATION OF AFRICAN-AMERICAN AND LATINO MALES**

I saw a graphic recently that compared the number of people who are being incarcerated to the number of people being helped at mental hospitals. As the number of people being helped at mental hospitals takes a huge downturn, there is a massive uptick in the number of people who are being incarcerated. Couple this with our state's education achievement gap and you will find that these issues may very well be connected. If the state can provide quality education to our youth, affordable healthcare (including a focus on mental health issues) and improve our housing and job markets we will begin to see a huge improvement in our community. The incarceration of African-American and Latino men is a problem we need to address as large numbers of minorities are imprisoned daily.

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