



Rep. Megna and Rep. Ritter reviewing the healthcare bill.

### Affordable, Quality Health Insurance

With the goal of achieving affordable quality health insurance for all, we established a health insurance exchange. The exchange is essentially a unique marketplace, which will allow individuals and small businesses to buy more affordable quality health insurance than what is available in today's market. We also created a responsible process where municipalities such as New Haven can join the state healthcare risk pool, reducing premiums for both the city and state. In turn, this will reduce your tax burden.

We also required insurance companies to provide coverage for MRIs for breast cancer screenings, the cost of bone marrow testing, and the cost of clinical trials for disabling and life-threatening diseases. In doing so, the quality of life for many Connecticut people will be enhanced, providing hope to some and possibly saving lives.

### Cash Value of Buildings

This law, which we created, prevents insurance companies from attempting to pay lower building damage settlements to homeowners and business owners that are based upon the depressed real estate market. It requires insurance companies to pay the cost to repair or replace the building with material of like kind, minus reasonable depreciation, giving the homeowner sufficient funds to repair damage. The practice of paying lower settlements based upon low market values was prevalent in urban areas such as New Haven.

### Repair/Remediation

This pro-consumer bills requires contractors who perform repair or mediation work relating to a claim under homeowners and business owners insurance policies must give the insured, before any work begins, written notice of the work to be completed and the estimated total price. If the person performing the repair or remediation work does not provide the required written notice, any contract between the person and the insured for the work is void.

### Condominium Owners

Several hundred thousand Connecticut residents reside in condominiums, including myself. The passage of this new law removes unhealthy behavior from the democratic process of condominium associations and empowers the unit owner to be heard by the association in disputes.



State Representative

# Robert Megna

Proudly Serving New Haven | 97<sup>th</sup> District

HOUSE DEMOCRATS of CONNECTICUT

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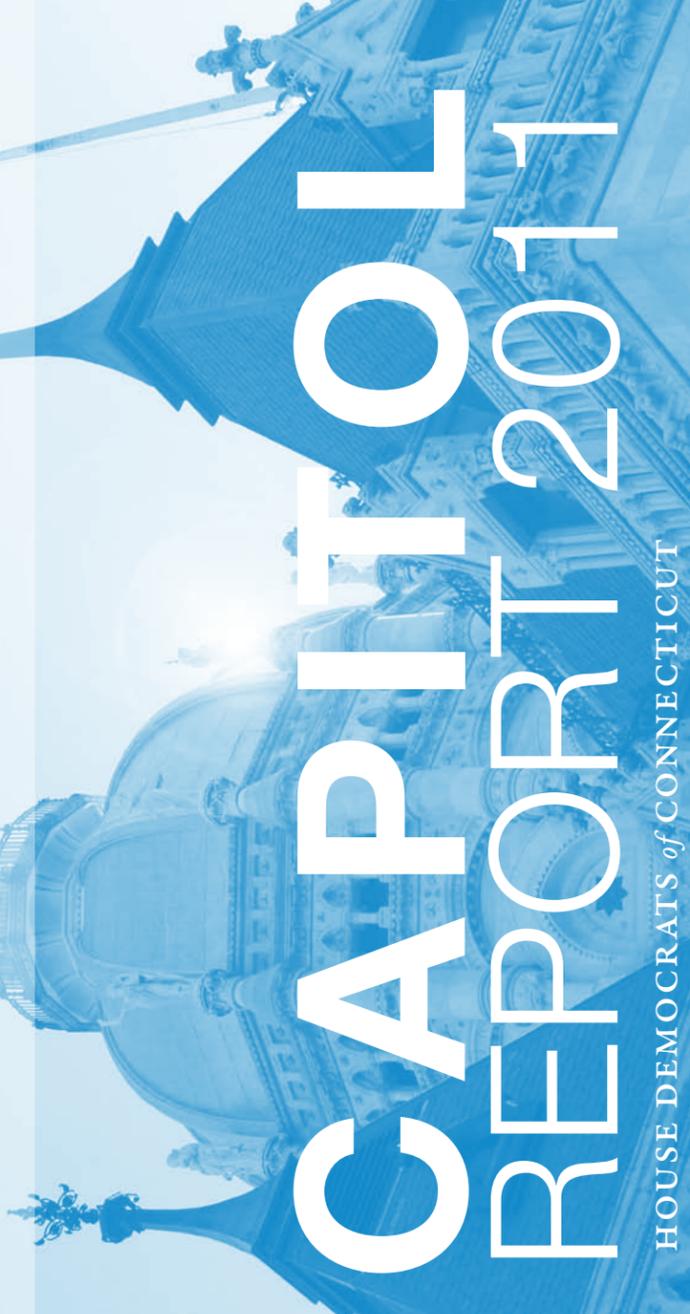
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# CAPITOL REPORT 2011

HOUSE DEMOCRATS of CONNECTICUT

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## State Representative Robert Megna

If you need additional assistance or have questions, please contact me:

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## CAPITOL REPORT 2011

Dear Neighbors,

Working cooperatively with Governor Dannel Malloy, the legislature established a historic, responsible and, most of all, sustainable budget. A budget that kept the City of New Haven whole.

This term I was chosen by Speaker of the House, Christopher Donovan, to be chairman of the Insurance and Real Estate Committee, which created or helped to create laws that will enhance your quality of life as well as that of the people of Connecticut.

The General Assembly passed various great laws. I have outlined some of the most significant ones.

I hope you will contact me with your questions or if you need assistance.

Sincerely,



Rep. Megna and Rep. Reynolds discussing legislation.

## Senior News

**ConnPACE Eligibility:** If you are a Connecticut resident age 65 or older, or with a disability age 18 or older, and you are NOT eligible for Medicare, you may qualify for ConnPACE.

Despite an earlier proposal to raise the Home Care for Elders program cost sharing from 6 to 15 percent for people in Connecticut, the Legislature successfully set a lower rate of 7 percent.

Money Follows the Person is expanded under the state budget, allowing more nursing home residents to transition back home. This program provides Medicaid funds for home care, which benefits families and saves taxpayers money.

Nursing Home Grievance committees will be established at each facility to ensure residents' concerns are resolved in a timely manner. Two nursing home employees and one elected resident will comprise the committee.

Grandparents Rights will be the subject of a study aimed at enhancing their ability to seek visitation rights. A task force will report its recommendations to the legislature by February 1, 2012. I am proud to support these and other services for our senior citizens.

## Saluting Our Veterans

Veterans, along with their families, have sacrificed so much so we can enjoy our freedom and a democratic way of life.

Veterans' bills passed this session:

- » Offer veterans' license plates to a member of the U. S. armed forces or his or her surviving spouse
- » Allow veteran status to be on a driver's license or identity card
- » Provide disabled wartime veterans with free parking, admission, and boat access parking to state recreational areas
- » Expand the waiver of property tax interest for certain armed forces members in Iraq and Afghanistan
- » Waive the \$20 fee for one certified copy of a veteran's death certificate when requested by family
- » Create a one-stop website for services available for veterans



Rep. Megna and Rep. Johnson join Dr. and Mrs. Huang and Dr. Nancy Cappello of Are You Dense Inc.

## Connecticut's Energy Future

This year, we helped lower energy costs and your electric rates which are among the highest in the country and moved the state toward clean and efficient energy. By creating the new department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), we now have a single state agency focused on energy issues. We are working to help create industries, jobs and businesses necessary to support a clean energy economy for the future.

## Preserving Connecticut

The quality of our environment affects everyone. The legislature continued important efforts to remove toxic materials from Connecticut's environment, assuring proper disposal and recycling to protect your health.

## LET'S KEEP IN TOUCH



State Representative

# ROBERT MEGNA



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