

Protecting Seniors

The legislature focused on improving the quality of life for senior citizens.

Money Follows the Person is expanded, 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 with their grandchildren.

Helping with Grocery Bills the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program has grown, making it easier for seniors to qualify and afford their groceries. More information is available at: 800-742-6906.



Rep. Morin with the mobile Foodshare truck in Wethersfield.

Foodshare

In these tough economic times more and more residents of our state are finding themselves unemployed or in need of assistance. Every two weeks, more than 120 of our neighbors line up on Lancaster Road in Wethersfield to stock their pantries with food and fresh produce from Foodshare. Even in Wethersfield there are hundreds of people in danger of going hungry without a helping hand.

Foodshare is the regional food bank for greater Hartford. They distribute more than 16 tons of food each day to those in need. Generally, Foodshare receives bulk donations of food from the food services industry. However, they do depend on the public for monetary donations and for donations of frozen turkeys during Thanksgiving. More information on Foodshare is available at foodshare.org.

Small donations of food and canned goods are desperately needed at the Wethersfield food bank at Town Hall. Please call them at 860-721-2977 for more information. Our neighbors need our help.

State Representative

Russell A. Morin

Proudly Serving Wethersfield | 28th District

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Russell A. Morin

State Representative 28th District
Proudly Serving Wethersfield

CAPITOL NEWS 2011

Dear Neighbor,

This year the legislature faced a one-two punch: a sputtering economy and a budget deficit. It was very challenging, but thanks to teamwork between the General Assembly and Governor Malloy, we crafted a solution that includes spending cuts, investments in job creation, funding for Wethersfield and a commitment to a leaner more efficient state government.

As House Chair of the legislature's Government Administration and Elections Committee, it was my job to work with my colleagues and design a smaller state government that still provides vital services. We met the challenge, reducing the number of state agencies from 81 to 56, cutting layers of bureaucracy and finding savings in every corner of state government.

We are on the road to economic recovery, but many obstacles remain. We must continue to focus on job growth, rein in spending and push our state agencies to do more with less. I will continue to work toward these goals as your voice in the State Capitol.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Russell A. Morin".

Russell A. Morin
State Representative



State Representative

Russell Morin

Proudly Serving Wethersfield | 28th District



Rep. Morin with Governor Malloy and Wethersfield residents John and Gina Gallivan at the bill signing for the bone marrow legislation.

Creating Jobs - My #1 Priority

The Legislature made sure Connecticut is open for business by enacting laws that:

- Expand the UConn Health Center
- Create a UConn Technology Park
- Encourage large companies to add jobs or move to our state under the “First Five” program
- Expand our reinvestments in manufacturing
- Create the Connecticut Airport Authority to run Bradley airport as an economic engine.

Helping People Stay in Their Homes

We expanded the Judicial Department’s Foreclosure Mediation program for an additional two years to help keep families in their homes.

Saluting Our Veterans

Veterans, along with their families, have sacrificed so much so we can enjoy our freedom and a democratic way of life. We appreciate and honor their service and made veterans’ issues a top priority this year.

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: www.ctveterans.org

Bone Marrow

After several years of trying, legislation requiring insurance companies to pay for the initial compatibility test for bone marrow donors becomes effective January 1st, 2012. This legislation will help so many of our citizens who are in need of bone marrow transplants. Under this legislation the test would be covered if the donor agrees to submit the test results to the National Bone Marrow Donor Registry. One test gives hope to thousands in need of a transplant, and save lives in addition to reducing long-term health costs. I would like to thank John and Gina Gallivan and the Lynch family for all of their advocacy on this issue.

Streamlining Government

To address the state budget crisis we cut costs and streamlined government. Connecticut is being run more efficiently this year with:

- State agency consolidations
- Upgraded technology
- Over \$700 million in spending cuts
- No borrowing
- Fully funded pension obligations
- A commitment to staying below the constitutional spending cap.

Reporting Animal and Child Abuse

A bill that requires the cross reporting of child abuse and animal cruelty was passed this year. Research indicates a strong connection between animal abuse, child abuse and domestic violence. Animal control officers and Department of Children and Family employees must now report to the state Department of Agriculture commissioner when an animal is suspected of being either; harmed, neglected or treated with cruelty.

Drunk Driving

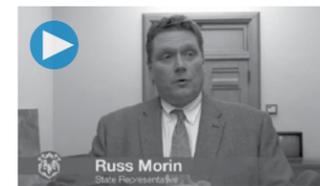
Ignition interlock devices (IID) will be required for repeat drunk driving offenders that will prevent them from starting the car if their blood alcohol content exceeds .08 percent.

WATCH VIDEOS ONLINE



Connecticut's Election Integrity

Rep. Morin on improving Connecticut’s elections to ensure last year’s cases of running out of ballots never happens again.



Bone Marrow Registry

Rep. Morin on a new law guaranteeing insurance coverage for life-saving bone marrow transplants.

www.housedems.ct.gov/Morin

LET’S KEEP IN TOUCH



State Representative

RUSSELL A. MORIN



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- Calling my office at 860-240-8500
- Emailing me at russell.morin@cga.ct.gov, or
- Visiting my website at www.housedems.ct.gov/Morin



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