

STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**AMY MORRIN BELLO**  
PROUDLY SERVING WETHERSFIELD

Dear Neighbor,

It is an honor to represent you at the State Capitol. I have made it a priority to listen to your concerns and have heard from constituents about the need to strengthen our economy, support education and our families, and make living easier and safer for our residents.

The past 18 months have been a time like no other with all of us feeling the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic in one way or another. My colleagues and I worked this session to address both the new challenges of the pandemic and existing injustices through the passage of over 350 bills and resolutions. My advocacy included equitable public health policies, increased access to mental health resources, a comprehensive review of crime data and juvenile justice, expanded voting rights, and additional support for our seniors, children, small businesses, and local government, including health districts and our schools.

I also worked with my colleagues to pass a bipartisan budget that will strengthen our economy and invest in our infrastructure, sustainability efforts, and education. I fought to ensure Wethersfield will see an increase in funding in both Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023. These statewide investments will see communities throughout Connecticut recover and thrive as we move out of this pandemic. I look forward to a brighter future for Connecticut.

As your State Representative, I will continue to advocate for the residents of Wethersfield.

Sincerely,



STATE REPRESENTATIVE

**AMY MORRIN BELLO**

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**CAPITOL UPDATE 2021**



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# STATE REPRESENTATIVE AMY MORRIN BELLO

## FIGHTING FOR FAMILIES

- Provided new health care coverage to 40,000 low-income residents and families
- Continued coverage for, and access to, telehealth
- Increased awareness of children's behavioral and mental health services
- Limited over-prescription of dangerous drugs
- Provided more low-income families a break on their state income tax through the Earned Income Tax Credit
- Fully funded free community college
- Expanded childcare services for parents continuing their education
- Required background checks for individuals working with children in athletic leagues and camps
- Strengthened laws on sex trafficking, making it easier for victims to restart their lives
- Blocked individuals who a court determines as high-risk from getting a firearm
- Cracked down on online harassment with tougher penalties
- Strengthened the rights of families who are not biologically related and for parents who have children through donor assistance



## GROWING CT'S ECONOMY

- Assisted CT's restaurants in recovery from the pandemic
- Cut unemployment insurance taxes on local businesses by excluding pandemic-related layoffs and paying the fund directly
- Created a new workforce pipeline program for individuals with disabilities
- Obtained additional federal funding for CT's high-quality Registered Apprenticeship Program
- Created an Unemployed Workers' Advocate to assist out-of-work residents
- Established new economic markets through the legalization of regulated adult use cannabis and online sports betting
- Led the country with equitable broadband

## STANDING UP FOR SENIORS

- Allowed towns to offer more seniors a property tax break
- Cut taxes on retiree income
- Eliminated state income taxes on IRA income over time, beginning in the 2023 tax year
- Fought age discrimination in the workplace, limiting the need for age and other dates on job applications
- Required background checks for homemaker-companions
- Strengthened rights for residents of long-term care facilities, including ensuring access to virtual visits
- Reformed nursing home staffing, policies, supply inventories in response to COVID-19

## WETHERSFIELD BUDGET SUMMARY

|   | FY 21               | FY 22               | FY 23               |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|---------------------|
| LoCIP (Local Capital Improvement Project) | \$184,657           | \$184,657           | \$184,657           |
| Town Aid Road                             | \$401,185           | \$401,185           | \$401,185           |
| Grants For Municipal Projects             | \$21,785            | \$21,785            | \$21,785            |
| Education Aid                             | \$10,927,628        | \$11,586,009        | \$12,241,835        |
| Non-Education Aid                         | \$285,770           | \$403,594           | \$403,594           |
| <b>Total State Funds To Wethersfield</b>  | <b>\$11,821,025</b> | <b>\$12,597,229</b> | <b>\$13,253,056</b> |



## SUPPORTING DEMOCRACY

- Made absentee balloting more accessible
- Allowed voters to decide, next November, if the state should have early, in-person voting
- Began the process to allow voters, in 2024, to decide if every registered voter in CT should be able to vote by absentee ballot
- Protected voters' personal information
- Paved the way for permanent drop boxes for absentee ballots
- Restored voting rights for individuals in community facilities or on parole

