State Rep. Bruce V. Morris of Norwalk.

State Rep. Bruce V. Morris introducing legislation on the floor of the House.

A BALANCED BUDGET *for* CONNECTICUT

– On Time and On Target

By working hard and reaching across party lines to create a compromise, we were able to balance this year's state budget with:

- » No tax increases
- » No cuts in municipal aid or education funding (ECS)
- » No change in funding for hospitals, schools, libraries and courthouses
- » Funding for dental care and prescriptions for seniors and the disabled
- » Lower co-pays for home care services on average $100/month (AARP endorsed)
- » A $500 individual property tax credit to help offset local property taxes

We erased a $10 billion deficit, balancing the budget on time and on target.

Norwalk Fiscal Year 2010-2011 Aid	
PILOT: State Owned Property	$345,112
PILOT: Colleges & Hospitals	$1,769,990
Town Aid Roads	$437,325
Local Capital Improvement Program	$616,531
Pequot/Mohegan Aid	$844,024
Adult Education	$79,551
School Transportation	$138,485
Educational Cost Sharing	$10,095,131
Total State Funds to Norwalk	$14,326,147

State Representative

BRUCE V. MORRIS

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State Representative | Assistant Majority Leader

Bruce V. Morris

Proudly Serving Norwalk | 140th District

STATE REPRESENTATIVE *of the* CONNECTICUT GENERAL ASSEMBLY

www.housedems.ct.gov/Morris

Legislative Office Building
Room 4054
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

Capitol: 860.240.8500
Toll free: 1.800.842.8267

Bruce.Morris@cga.ct.gov
www.housedems.ct.gov/Morris

STATE REPRESENTATIVE *of the* CONNECTICUT GENERAL ASSEMBLY

Capitol Update

The 2010 legislative session has been one of both challenge and compromise as we worked to address the state budget deficiency. In the end, we saw real results as legislative leadership and the Governor worked together to craft a sound, responsible and fair state budget. I am proud that we were able to work together, across party lines, to create a compromise and close the 2010 and 2011 fiscal years with no deficit and a balanced budget that avoided both devastating cuts to services and widespread tax increases.

As we look ahead to the future, fiscal challenges remain. While I am truly optimistic about Connecticut's economic recovery, I remain realistic about the absolute necessity to prevent wasteful spending, limit borrowing and keep taxes in check. I will continue to work towards those goals as your voice in the State Capitol.

State Representative | Assistant Majority Leader

Bruce V. Morris

Proudly Serving Norwalk | 140th District

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

State Representative
Bruce V. Morris

Capitol Phone	860.240.8500
Toll free	800.842.8267

www.housedems.ct.gov/**Morris**

Environment

Reduce, Reuse, Recycle

We all recognize the importance of recycling to protect our environment. Connecticut residents will now be able to recycle more through changes made to state law that:

- Allow for more types of paper and plastic to be recycled
- Require private trash collectors to offer recycling
- Require recycling bins in public areas where regular trash bins are located

Saluting Our Veterans

- Veterans in nursing homes can now use the VA as their pharmacy, saving money for veterans and taxpayers
- Honorably discharged retired veterans with 30 years or more of service can now apply for "retirement promotions" and move up one grade in rank
- Active duty service members out of state will get an extension for 30 days to renew their expired driver's licenses after their return to Connecticut
- March 30th is now designated as the official Welcome Home Vietnam Veterans Commemoration Day
- Veterans can now use their military service experience and training as academic credit for certain technical certificates and licenses

Protecting Families

Responding to Domestic Violence in our Communities

The legislature made the most sweeping reforms to our domestic violence laws in the past 25 years, which will empower educators, service providers, law enforcement officers and survivors with new tools that make:

- Improvements to educator training and the enforcement of protective orders
- Employment and housing protections
- GPS monitoring for high risk offenders
- Additional domestic violence court dockets
- Increased staffing at 24 hour emergency shelters

State Rep. Bruce V. Morris discussing legislation with State Rep. Chris Perone and Congressman Jim Himes in the House Chamber.

Towns Save by Working Together

Saving on School Busing

Every town in Connecticut can now save money on their school transportation costs.

- A new grant is available for boards of education from multiple towns that work together to provide transportation services
- This will be new money coming to the Norwalk school system

Saving on Health Insurance

Cities and towns can now save money on health insurance costs.

- Two or more towns or boards of education can join together to purchase health care benefits at lower costs
- A larger group size can achieve lower premiums, better benefits for employees and more bargaining power for towns

Taxpayers Off the Hook for Evicted Property

- Local taxpayers have been relieved of the cost of storing the belongings of evicted tenants
- Tenant's rights will be protected because state marshals will be responsible for removal, delivery and storage of belongings

Lower-Cost Drugs

- Municipalities can now take advantage of lower-cost prescription drugs through state discounts
- The bargaining power, low administrative costs, and discounts negotiated by the state will save cities and towns money

Creating Jobs

Number One Priority — Dig Out of the Recession

Working with the Governor, we passed a significant new jobs bill that will help put Connecticut on the road to economic recovery with:

- Up to $500,000 in loans and lines of credit for small businesses and nonprofits
- Student loan reimbursement for careers in new and emerging fields
- Income tax credits for investments in new technology businesses
- Sales tax exemptions for machinery, supplies and fuel in renewable energy industries
- Tax credits for small businesses of up to $200 per month per new employee
- Up to $150,000 in pre-seed financing and technical services to businesses developing innovative concepts
- Better environmental rules to speed up business permitting process

State Rep. Bruce V. Morris in front of the State Capitol.

Health Care

Moving Forward on Health Reform

The recent passage of the historic federal health care reform law will lead to welcome improvements in the quality, access and affordability of health care for Connecticut residents. This session, the legislature built on those improvements, taking steps to lower costs and enhance transparency and accountability in our health care system.

The new legislation:

- Saves money for towns by allowing them to join the state in bulk purchasing of prescription drugs
- Requires insurance companies to disclose denial rates so consumers can compare the quality of different plans
- Extends state COBRA coverage from 18 to 30 months so laid off employees can keep their health insurance as they look for new jobs
- Requires insurance companies to refer consumers to the state Office of the Health Care Advocate for assistance with denials of coverage
- Improves coverage for chemotherapy patients
- Enhances patient safety by improving hospital reporting of medical errors

Cut along dotted line.

State Representative
BRUCE V. MORRIS

To receive more information on any of the following issues: e-mail, call or mail me the completed form and indicate which issues you are interested in.

- ☐ 2010 Major Acts
- ☐ Business
- ☐ Veterans
- ☐ Health Care
- ☐ Environment
- ☐ Jobs
- ☐ Seniors
- ☐ Energy
- ☐ Children
- ☐ Education

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Bruce.Morris@cga.ct.gov
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