

Dear Neighbor,

This year, we created a state budget that focused on preserving city and town budgets, increasing public education funding, and investing in transportation. Most people will see reductions in their car taxes and most municipalities will see increased funding through property tax reforms. As a result of this budget, Bristol will see an **increase of state aid in the amount of \$462,000 in Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 and \$2.3 million in FY 2017 as compared to 2015**. This additional funding could be used to ease the property tax burden.

The new state budget created a long-term transportation plan and made critical investments in our highways, buses, and railways statewide. These improvements to our aging infrastructure will help grow our economy.

We aim to remain economically competitive with neighboring states by growing and supporting our business community. This year, we did this by continuing to fund a public education system and universities that produce highly skilled workers, and by keeping property taxes for businesses in check. Over the last few years, through the Small Business Express program and economic development grants, we have provided millions in funding to help retain and attract businesses.

Thank you for providing me with the honor to serve the residents of Bristol and Forestville.

All the best,



STATE REPRESENTATIVE

# FRANK N. NICASTRO, SR.

SERVING BRISTOL AND FORESTVILLE

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# **TAX RELIEF, PROTECTING CRITICAL SERVICES, AND INVESTING IN CONNECTICUT'S FUTURE**

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## **TAX RELIEF**

- Increased state aid for Bristol by over \$2.3 million in 2017 as compared to 2015, while also lowering the car tax by \$599,351 for our City's residents (the mill rate on automobiles will be capped at 32 mills in 2016 and 29.36 mills in 2017). This funding could help to ease the local property tax burden
- Military veterans' retirement pay will now be 100% exempt from the state income tax
- Only corporations with out-of-state profits and the top 2% of taxpayers (couples making more than \$500,000 per year) will be asked to pay a little bit more

## **CRITICAL FUNDING RESTORED FOR BRISTOL HOSPITAL**

- I successfully advocated to restore \$4.8 million in state funding cuts for Bristol Hospital for Fiscal Year (FY) 2016 and FY 2017 combined

## **INVESTING IN OUR ECONOMIC FUTURE**

- To reduce traffic and encourage economic growth by replacing and repairing aging roads and bridges, and making generational investments in bus, rail, bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure
- Keeping taxes low for growing industries like data processing and computer services, and continuing the Research and Development tax credits

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## **GREAT JOB GROWTH NEWS**

- Private sector employers in Connecticut added more than 6,000 jobs in May and 2,600 in June
- Over the last year, those employers have added more than 26,000 jobs
- The unemployment rate has dropped to 5.7% - the lowest point in 7 years