



STOPPING DOMESTIC VIOLENCE

Every year in Connecticut, 54,000 individuals are victims of domestic violence and more than 1,000 children require emergency sheltering due to family violence in their homes.

Two years ago, the legislature established a task force on domestic violence. We've helped victims, law enforcement and educators fight this societal epidemic. But more needs to be done.

This year, we focused on strengthening law enforcement's hand in fighting domestic violence and better protecting victims. The result was a far reaching set of recommendations that was passed.

I look forward to keep working on issues important to you and your loved ones.

State Representative

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Helping Law Enforcement and Victims Fight Domestic Violence

Help For Victims

Civil restraining and criminal protective orders needed strengthening to better meet the needs of victims. Legislation we passed will:

- Clarify state law to let minors get restraining orders
- Extend restraining orders from 180 days to one year
- Require bail commissioners to evaluate safety in offender releases
- Improve victim notification when a case dismissal is entered, an offender violates probation, or the terms of an offender's probation are altered
- Maintain funding for 24/7 staffing at shelters

Law Enforcement Support

We took a comprehensive look at ways to give law enforcement new tools to respond to domestic violence in our communities. Our recommendations included:

- Training standards to improve police response
- A uniform response policy for law enforcement
- Data collection improvements to better inform future policy changes

Find Out More

Additional information about the task force and the full report and recommendations can be found on its web site at www.housedems.ct.gov/DV.

What We've Already Done

- Educator training in teen dating and domestic violence prevention
- 24/7 staff funding at shelters
- Protect victims who terminate housing rental agreements for safety
- A GPS pilot program for high risk offenders
- New domestic violence court dockets
- Employment protections for victims
- Help teens and stalking victims get restraining orders
- Increased accountability for offenders and ensured a cooling off period following an arrest