

# The Connecticut General Assembly



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## **DISPATCH HEADING BACK TO TROOP K AND ALL STATE POLICE BARRACKS**

Deputy Speaker of the House **Linda Orange** (D-Colchester, Lebanon, Windham and Mansfield), a vocal opponent to consolidated dispatch, hailed Department of Emergency Services and Public Protection Commissioner Dora B. Schriro's decision to return dispatch services to the State Police barracks.

"This is the right decision," Rep. Orange said. "This rollback was going to happen either through the commissioner's office, or legislatively."

**Rep. Orange** was the architect of bipartisan legislation ([HB 5105](#)) to reinstate dispatch centers and operations in each state police barrack affected by the eastern and western district dispatch consolidations.

The legislation had the support of the State Police union and Council of Small Towns (COST) and was viewed as a safety measure for the public and trooper.

"This was an expensive mistake that put troopers and citizens at risk," Rep. Orange said.

Rep. Orange has opposed consolidation for more than a decade. In 2005 she was asked by then-Connecticut Speaker of the House Moira Lyons to visit and research the centralized dispatch center in Pennsylvania. Orange noted similar problems in Pennsylvania that ended up plaguing consolidation in Connecticut.

The return to local-area dispatch will occur in the coming weeks.

"We won the fight," said Orange

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