

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The 2025 legislative session featured big issues like lowering energy bills, childcare, special education, and the state budget – and we tackled them all.

I was also proud to work with the New Haven delegation to deliver millions more in funding to support our local schools, roads, public safety, and economic development.

It continues to be an honor to serve as your state representative and I always welcome your questions, ideas, and feedback.

Please feel free to reach out to me anytime if I can be of assistance to you and your family.

Sincerely,



Al Paolillo



DEPUTY SPEAKER
AL PAOLILLO, JR.

PROUDLY SERVING NEW HAVEN - 97TH DISTRICT

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UPDATE **2025**

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NEW HAVEN PROUD



OUR SINGLE-GREATEST INVESTMENT IN SPECIAL EDUCATION

- Established a new Special Education Expansion and Development (SEED) grant program based on school needs to help build local capacity, so more students can be served closer to home.
- Ensured our reimbursement grant for high-needs students is funded at its highest level in Connecticut history.
- Increased state funding for local capital improvements related to special education.

IMPROVING PUBLIC SAFETY AND QUALITY OF LIFE

This past session, I led the passage of these laws to help protect our community and improve quality of life

- To make our roads safer, we increased fines for people who repeatedly block fire hydrants and we increased penalties for street racing and takeovers.
- To make our communities and kids safer, we continued to crackdown on smoke shops by requiring sellers to ask for age verification, increasing fines for anyone who sells vapes to kids, and regulated THC drinks sold from smoke shops.
- To support our police officers, DESPP will now find ways to develop and enhance programs to address police officer mental health and created the Fallen Officer Fund for the families of firefighters, EMT personnel, and paramedics who are killed in the line of duty.
- To provide better safety for residents at public housing complexes like Bella Vista, we passed a bill to require yearly elevator inspections and info to be provided to DAS when they are not working. This bill was vetoed as a part of a larger housing bill, but I will continue to work with Sen. Looney to make it become law.

A STATE BUDGET THAT INVESTS IN YOUR PRIORITIES

- Our budget is the single-greatest investment in childcare in Connecticut's history.
- We delivered targeted, meaningful tax relief and long-term support for working families.
- Our comprehensive energy reforms will mean lower bills and a smarter grid.

SUPPORTING CHILDREN

We established the Early Childhood Education Endowment, starting with a down payment of nearly \$300 million. By 2027, families earning up to \$100,000 will be able to receive childcare at no cost, while families earning more than \$100,000 will pay no more than 7% of their income for childcare.



FUNDING FOR NEW HAVEN

Worked with Senator Looney and the New Haven delegation to secure our fair share of state funding is always a top priority. This year we secured:

**\$170.8 million for Education
(including \$1.85 million in new Special Ed Funding)
\$19.1 million Increase in total State Aid**

We also secured state funding for Dom Aitro Baseball League, Annex Little League, New Haven Youth Soccer, Haven's Harvest, JUNTA, Mt. Hope Temple Food Pantry, and many other organizations.

- **\$947,500** in brownfield remediation funding for the clean-up of Front Street to allow economic development of Oyster Harbor Village
- **\$1 million** from the airplane fuel tax made eligible to fund traffic, noise, and environmental mitigation from Tweed Airport

