

Dear neighbor,

The 2026 legislative session is in the rearview mirror and I want to bring your attention to some important policies that will improve life for residents here in Madison and Durham.

It was a jam-packed session full of big ideas and impactful legislation. Here's a taste of what people have been saying about our work...

Making Historic Investments in Police, Fire, EMS, & Veterans
- CT Mirror

Connecticut budget adds free school breakfasts, ends sales tax on school supplies
- Hearst CT

Additional funding heading for Connecticut school districts
- NBC 30

I hope you find this newsletter informative. It is a privilege to serve as your representative in Hartford, and I'd welcome the chance to connect and discuss your questions, concerns, or ideas. Don't hesitate to reach out!

Enjoy,



ENVIRONMENTAL LEADERSHIP

As Chair of the Environment Committee, I led passage of legislation to protect Connecticut's natural resources, improve public safety, and lower costs for residents. For example we:

- Made solar energy more affordable and reliable by improving safety standards, streamlining permitting, and expanding benefits for low-income residents.
- Protected Connecticut's lakes, rivers, and public waters through new boating safety requirements and stronger enforcement tools.
- Supported local conservation efforts through wetlands training, farmland preservation programs, and new investments in agriculture.



STATE REPRESENTATIVE JOHN-MICHAEL PARKER PROUDLY SERVING DURHAM AND MADISON

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CAPITOL UPDATE '26

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CAPITOL UPDATE 2026

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE

JOHN-MICHAEL PARKER

CAPITOL UPDATE 2026

BIG WINS FOR

CONNECTICUT

- Invested in small businesses, workforce training, education, and college affordability to strengthen Connecticut’s long-term economic competitiveness.
- Improved transit, environmental protections, senior care, public services, and community safety to make Connecticut more affordable, accessible, and livable.



✓

CHILD SAFETY

Closed gaps in child protection systems by strengthening oversight across schools, childcare, camps, and DCF to better identify and prevent abuse and neglect.

✓

GUN SAFETY

Cracked down on illegal firearm conversion devices and expanded safe surrender options to reduce access to dangerous weapons during crisis situations.

✓

SENIORS

Improved care, transparency, and accountability in assisted living and nursing facilities while strengthening resident rights and protections.

✓

PUBLIC HEALTH

Expanded vaccine access and insurance coverage while reinforcing science-based standards to protect community health.

✓

DATA PRIVACY

Strengthened safeguards on personal data, limited misuse of sensitive information, and increased accountability for data brokers and AI systems.



CT LEGISLATURE

PASSES

RESPONSIBLE BIPARTISAN BUDGET

THANKS TO SOUND BUDGETING AND A COLLABORATIVE APPROACH WE:

- Delivered over \$300 million in relief for cities, towns, and schools, including increased education funding and free school breakfasts.
- Reached a historic hospital agreement providing tax relief, maximizing federal funding, and helping reduce healthcare costs.
- Expanded transportation options through Shore Line East, micro-transit programs, and more affordable bus service.
- Invested in public safety and fiscal responsibility, funding first responders, training, equipment, and dedicating \$1 billion to debt reduction.
- Lowered costs for families through tax relief, tax-free school supplies, and expanded support for caregivers and early childhood education.



FREE AND FAIR ELECTIONS

- Streamlined absentee ballot procedures, added ballot tracking, and improved access for eligible voters.
- Expanded audits, increased safeguards against interference, and improved protections for election accuracy and transparency.
- Kept polling places safe by restricting weapons, preventing intimidation, and enhancing training and support for poll workers.