

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

It remains an esteemed honor and privilege to serve as your state representative. The 2023 legislative session is in the rearview mirror, and I wanted to take a moment to check in and highlight some of our accomplishments over the past several months.

We worked hard to deliver a budget that adheres to our fiscal guardrails while still providing hundreds of millions in more funding to our local schools, colleges and universities, and services for our most vulnerable residents. Now, there is still more work to be done and many more fiscal gaps to bridge, and you have my full commitment in continuing the work to get it done.

As part of our historic tax cuts, families of four who make under \$50,000 annually will pay no state income taxes. This is another important step in addressing the exacerbated struggles many are facing post-COVID.

I'd love to hear from you if you would like more details or have any questions on the initiatives addressed in this legislative update OR if you have any ideas on policies for the upcoming 2024 legislative session. Meanwhile, I hope that you are having a wonderful and safe summer!

Sincerely,

PROUDLY SERVING HAMDEN & NEW HAVEN

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FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE

## ROBYN A. PORTER

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Karaine Holness and Prince Amir at The Caribbean Heritage Festival in New Haven



Miss Puerto Rico, Rep. Porter, & Little Miss Puerto Rico at The Caribbean Heritage Festival in New Haven

#### **HAMDEN & NEW HAVEN FUNDING INCREASES**

#### **EDUCATION FUNDING**

	2023 ESTIMATED	2024 BUDGETED
HAMDEN	\$32,878,103	\$34,895,170
NEW HAVEN	\$166,695,005	\$168,584,315

### **TOWN/CITY AID FUNDING**

	2023 ESTIMATED	2024 BUDGETED
HAMDEN	\$18,283,264	\$23,550,248
NEW HAVEN	\$125,408,821	\$128,788,250

### **PROTECTING RENTERS**

- Increased municipal fines to \$2,000 for rental property violations (unsanitary or unsafe living conditions)
- Required landlords to offer walk-throughs prior to signing a lease
- Capped rental application fees at \$50
- Erased judicial records for renters who win eviction cases
- Required a more timely return of security deposits
- Capped late charges for past due rent

**OUR BIPARTISAN BUDGET INCLUDES THE** 

## LARGEST TAX CUT IN STATE HISTORY

- \$600 million middle class tax cuts
- Increase **Earned Income Tax Credit**for lower income workers
- Expand cuts to retirement savings to benefit seniors

### **INVESTS:**

- More funding for K-12 education
- More funding for higher education
- More funding for nonprofits
- More funding for childcare
- MORE FUNDING FOR HAMDEN/NEW HAVEN



### **GETTING PEOPLE BACK ON THEIR FEET**

- Ensured those leaving prison have a state ID or driver's license
- Made more people convicted of a crime before the age of 21 eligible for parole
- Created reentry success plans for youth getting out of correctional or judicial facilities
- Expanded assistance to refugees
- Assisted people who no longer qualify for Medicaid by providing two months of premium assistance to enroll on the health insurance exchange
- Created pilot programs for substance abuse and mental health issues at correctional facilities
- Expanded eligibility to short-term financial assistance

#### PROTECTING MATERNAL HEALTHCARE

- Created a new license category for freestanding birth centers administered by the DPH starting January 1, 2024, and prohibited establishing or operating a birth center unless it's licensed
- Established a Doula Advisory Committee and Doula Training Program Review Committee
- Established a voluntary Doula Certificate Program by DPH
- Required DPH to create a midwifery working group for studies and recommendations for community-based birthcare
- Established an Infant Mortality Review Committee within DPH to conduct reviews of infant death and disparities



CT Early Childhood Alliance Rep. Porter Receiving Children's Champion Award



Presser Hosted by Representatives Porter and McGee to Kickoff Black Maternal Health Week

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