

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
Lonnie Reed

EDUCATION

Inspiring young minds early on helps unleash a child's full potential and fuels our ability to compete as a state and as a nation. We are working with educators and employers in an ongoing effort to nourish all of our schools, not just the failing ones. This session, we increased the options for high school students to earn graduation credits in non-traditional ways that include approved industry internships and training.



Rep. Reed reading with LuLu.



Dr. Prabhakar Singh, Director of the UCONN Center for Clean Energy Engineering and Rep. Reed.

We invested in science, technology, engineering and math (STEM) to attract the best minds to UCONN. We are also developing innovative learning programs with Connecticut biotech, precision manufacturing, medical research and other sectors that reach out to kids and get them excited about new career choices and opportunities, beginning in elementary school.

BRINGING YOUR STATE DOLLARS HOME

This session, I honored my pledge to balance the state budget while also protecting and increasing funds to our town. Appropriations to Branford include more than \$3 million in state money for education, school transportation and Town Road Aid. I also helped secure grants for open space preservation and public walkway and lighting improvements; \$500,000 to turn the Stony Creek Post Office into a comfort station for beachgoers and tourists; private foundation money for our Adult Education program; and well over \$2.25 million in economic development funds for Branford businesses.

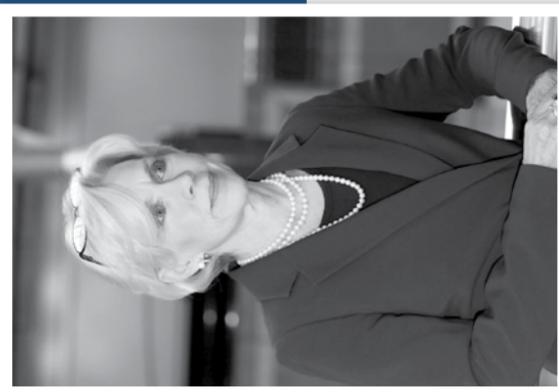


Gov. Malloy delivering good news to Rep. Reed and First Selectman Anthony "Unk" DaRos.

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CAPITOL UPDATE 2013

Dear Neighbors,

We successfully confronted profound challenges during the 2013 General Assembly session. Shattered by the Newtown tragedy that destroyed so many innocent lives, we reached across the aisle and joined hands to deliver a powerful bi-partisan response. Connecticut residents demanded action and we crafted responsible legislation to improve school security, firearm safety and access to mental health services.

We also moved to strengthen our increasingly vulnerable coastline infrastructure and balanced our budget without imposing new taxes or reducing state assistance to our town. We were even able to obtain more funding for Branford schools and generous grants for town projects.

As Chairman of the Energy and Technology Committee, I helped negotiate and lead the debate resulting in passage of a remarkable Comprehensive Energy Strategy designed to move us towards a cleaner, greener, more affordable energy future.

We also adopted legislation to:

- Assist Seniors and Veterans
- Ban methoprene and resmethrin, insecticides opposed by the Long Island Sound lobster industry
- Help struggling homeowners by improving the foreclosure mediation process
- Improve education in science, technology, engineering and math

There were other achievements as well and I hope that you find this newsletter helpful in detailing just some of our new laws and policies. So many of you contributed valuable insights last session and I look forward to your continuing advice and counsel. It is an honor to serve you.

As always, I am easy to reach and eager to hear from you.

Warmest Regards,

Lonnie Reed

STATE REPRESENTATIVE LONNIE REED

BRANFORD | WWW.HOUSEDEMS.CT.GOV/REED

MEETING THE NEEDS OF OUR VETERANS

It is our duty to ensure that our veterans receive effective support as they return to civilian life. Rewarding jobs are paramount. This session, we created a task force to help veterans qualify for occupational specialty licenses that correspond to the military training they received and the jobs they performed while serving our country. We also mandated that all municipalities designate a town employee to serve as an ombudsman; connecting veterans to local, state and federal resources.



Bob Murray, US Navy, retired; Rep. Reed; and volunteer, Brian Drury, USMC Reserves at Take a Vet Fishing Day.



Branford Memorial Day Parade 2013.

PROTECTING OUR SHORELINE AND LONG ISLAND SOUND

As a member of the Shoreline Preservation Task Force and co-chair of the Long Island Sound Caucus, I helped craft legislation to speed repair and restoration of coastline structures to protect them from future storms. We also worked to promote clean marinas by rewarding the reduction of oil, paint and sewage run-off. We held our annual bi-state Long Island Sound conference with New York legislators to cooperate on Long Island Sound issues. Our delegation urged New York to follow Connecticut's lead and ban the use of two insecticides thought to impact lobsters. And we are teaming up to pursue lasting solutions for the growing problem of pharmaceuticals in Long Island Sound and our waterways.



Rep. Reed aboard Save the Sound research vessel in Long Island Sound.



With mapping technician aboard National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration vessel.

BUILDING OUR ECONOMY

As a businesswoman, I know that real economic development needs a hands-on approach. I worked closely with the Governor's office, the state Department of Economic and Community Development (DECD), Branford Town Hall and our largest commercial building owner to help bring Durata Therapeutics, Inc. to our town.

Durata is on track to win FDA approval for a remarkable drug to cure devastating bacterial skin infections. With 30 top-earning employees and growing fast, Durata boosts Branford's biotech sector and has already helped us attract other innovative new companies. Durata executives say, "Our people love Branford."



from left to right: Dr. Michael Dunne, Chief Medical Officer, Durata Therapeutics; DECD Commissioner Catherine Smith, Gov. Malloy and Rep. Reed.



Rep. Reed with beloved Step-mom Lois Hubbell-Reed.

AGING IN PLACE

One of my priorities is to protect and expand services that allow our senior citizens to stay in their own homes as they grow older. It is vital for their well-being and also saves money. We established a dedicated Department of Aging and launched a major initiative that will make it easier for seniors to age in place – in their communities with family and friends.

WORKING AT THE CAPITOL



MORE Commission Meeting.



With Energy co-chair Sen. Bob Duff.



Press Conference with Majority Leader and colleagues.



On the House floor discussing a bill.

CAPITOL UPDATE 2013

GIVING YOU ENERGY CHOICES

One of my biggest goals this session was to give consumers more energy choices. My phone rings off the hook with constituents who want to switch from oil to cleaner, more affordable natural gas. As co-chair of the Energy and Technology Committee, I led the successful passage of a new natural gas expansion plan that will soon be implemented. Fuel oil customers also received incentives to save energy and money by upgrading their furnaces and weatherizing their homes.



Groundbreaking for Fuel Cell Energy Plant, Gov. Malloy; Fuel Cell Energy CEO Chip Bottone; DEEP Commissioner Dan Esty; Rep. Reed.

I fought to pass legislation that promotes more large-scale renewable energy such as solar, wind and fuel cell installations that generate enough electricity for 15,000 homes. These technologies can also serve as micro-grids to operate hospitals, shelters, grocery stores, sewage treatment plants and other crucial assets when big storms knock out our power. We are on our way to a cleaner, cheaper more reliable energy future and I am proud that Connecticut is viewed as a national leader in this effort.



At the Clean Energy Press Conference.

CELEBRATING BRANFORD BUSINESSES

I was honored to help celebrate 100 years of success with Myers Flowers, one of the vibrant local businesses that enhance our community and our tax base. Small businesses deserve our ongoing attention. This session, we expanded the popular Small Business Express program that provides loans and matching grants for growth and job creation to companies with 100 or fewer employees. Branford recipients include Aleia's Gluten Free Foods, a specialty baked goods company that added 46 new jobs.



Elise Kleiner and Lee-Ellen Magna, owners of Myers Flower Shop and Rep. Reed.