

PROTECTING PETS & FAMILIES

Rescuing captive animals and abused pets and protecting neighbors and families are ongoing missions and we have now empowered the courts to grant temporary ownership of neglected or mistreated animals to regional shelters.

We also acted to ensure that our state's pet shops only buy and sell pets from humane breeders and not "puppy mills" that mistreat breeding animals and can produce sickly puppies and kittens. Our "Puppy Mill" task force recommended and we adopted legislation to develop a high standard of care for all in-state breeders and pet shop licensees. Pet shops are required to post USDA inspection reports for breeders of any dog offered for sale.



Rep. Reed with Branford Animal Shelter Director Laura Burban and a rescued cat.



Rep. Reed with a Beardsley Zoo Alligator rescued from an urban apartment.

PRESERVING OUR SHORELINE & ENVIRONMENT

We created the climate institute at UCONN's Avery Point at UCONN's Avery Point to research and develop effective strategies for protecting our shoreline communities from higher tides and harsher storms.

We also acted to protect The Preserve, 1000 acres on Long Island Sound stretching from Old Saybrook to Essex. Known as the last, large unprotected coastal forest between New York and Boston, it serves as an important buffer against storm waters. The Preserve is rich in natural resources, perfect for passive outdoor recreation and connects to 500 acres of existing parklands in adjoining towns and miles of hiking trails.



Rep. Reed fishing with the Take a Vet Fishing program seen here with Roy Jenkins, US Air Force, Ret. on Long Island Sound.



At the Avery Point opening with Congressman Joe Courtney & UCONN Board Chair Lawrence McHugh.

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE
LONNIE REED
PROUDLY SERVING BRANFORD'S 102ND DISTRICT



STATE REPRESENTATIVE **LONNIE REED**

PROUDLY SERVING BRANFORD'S 102ND DISTRICT



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Dear Neighbor,

We accomplished much during our high-speed legislative short session that adjourned in May. Branford will experience many benefits.

Our balanced budget contains no new taxes but still provides more support to our cities and towns and makes key investments to promote economic development. We even wound up with a \$43.4 million surplus that we immediately deposited into our Rainy Day Fund.

The budget also provides some long-term tax relief. Teachers' pensions will begin to see an income tax exemption. There will be a tax exemption for non-prescription drugs. And we are extending our Angel Investors' tax credit to inspire more investments in Connecticut entrepreneurs and small businesses.

We also adopted legislation to:

- Grow Jobs
- Educate Veterans
- Help Seniors pay for Housing
- Help Families pay for College
- Safeguard Shoreline Communities from Environmental threats
- Protect Consumers from Skyrocketing Electric bills

I hope you find these newsletter highlights helpful and informative. I always appreciate so many of you who communicate with me, sharing your thoughts, concerns and expertise on complicated issues.

I am most grateful for your valuable insights. It is an honor and a privilege to serve you in Hartford.

Warmest Regards,

Lonnie Reed

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CAPITOL UPDATE 2014

MEETING THE NEEDS OF OUR VETERANS

We continue to confront challenges encountered by many of our Veterans. This year we acted to guarantee security deposits of up to two months for qualified Veterans in search of homes to rent. We approved the Veterans' Opportunity Pilot Program designed to match Veterans with homes and jobs. And we worked to streamline the state licensing process for our job-seeking Veterans. CT Veterans can earn college credits and be matched with certain trades and public safety occupations that correspond to their military training.



Rep. Reed with Bronze Star recipient Sgt. Brian Shattuck, SPC Alexander Coleman, SPC Rashann Villafane, SPC John Pajor

INCREASING ENERGY CHOICE

As House Chairman of the Energy & Technology Committee, I helped craft and pass a bill to protect Connecticut from toxic fracking waste deposits. I led the fight to upgrade our natural gas infrastructure and stop gas leakage and loss as it travels to homes and businesses. I also led House passage of a new law, the strongest in the nation, to protect consumers from predatory electricity suppliers who promise low prices only to send shockingly high bills.



Rep. Reed received the Clean Energy Champion Award from New England Clean Energy Council.

I continue to lead in the push for Renewable Energy, and Connecticut now boasts more solar, wind and fuel cell power than ever before.

I helped write a new law demanding that utilities take far more care when they cut or remove trees to protect power lines from storm outages. Utilities must now work more closely with town residents and tree wardens to determine if, when, where and how much tree cutting can be done.



Rep. Reed with DEEP Commissioner Rob Klee and Sen. Bob Duff re-charging an electric car.



Rep. Reed in the Wesleyan Micro Grid plant with manager Alan Rubacha and Middletown Mayor Dan Drew.



For questions about any energy related issue or program call 1-877-WISE USE (947-3873) or go to www.energizect.com for more information

STATE REPRESENTATIVE

LONNIE REED

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PROMOTING BUSINESSES & JOBS

A continuing priority of mine is to attract new companies to Branford while helping existing businesses thrive. Once again, we had a successful year. We secured \$3 million in state incentives to keep CORE Informatics, an innovative technology company, growing here. CORE is expected to add 84 new and retained jobs over the next five years.

The state's Small Business Express program has provided grants and low interest loans to a wide variety of Branford businesses. They include car dealerships, a food manufacturer, a shellfish company and York Dental Cerama, a laboratory that employs 44 people.

Additionally 18 Branford-based companies that supply products and services to United Technologies will benefit from our vote last session to use tax credits to convince UTC, Connecticut's largest employer, to keep expanding in Connecticut. That is also good news for the 75 Branford residents who work for UTC.



Rep. Reed on panel hosted by Women Working Together at its annual leadership luncheon. (l-r) Day Pitney partner Flossie Davis; CT U.S. Atty. Deirdre Daly; Robin Smith, VP & general counsel, LEGO Systems, Inc.; Pamela Trotman Reid, Pres., University of Saint Joseph.



Rep. Reed and Rep. Widlitz celebrate a state loan to Branford's CORE informatics with Gov. Malloy, Lt. Gov. Wyman and CORE CEO Josh Geballe.

HELPING OUR SENIORS

Some seniors who want to remain at home cannot afford the modifications to make their residences functional and safe. We created a \$6 million grant program to pay for home alterations and other assistive technology for qualified seniors.



Rep. Reed listening to healthcare and quality of life concerns.

We also required the Commission on Aging to recognize and encourage livable community initiatives that include services to enhance quality of life. I am working closely with our town leaders to acquire needed facilities and services for Branford seniors.

STRENGTHENING EDUCATION / SCHOOL & CAMPUS SAFETY

We created a new Office of Early Childhood to coordinate programs that enrich our children's development from birth to elementary school.



With new granddaughter Alexandra.

We approved a Baby Scholars Program that encourages new parents to begin saving for college as soon as possible with a CHET 529 account.

We took additional steps to enhance school safety for all children.

And we demanded the implementation of better tactics to protect college students from sexual assault and partner violence.



With students from Tisko Elementary.

The Education & Employment Information Center (EEIC)

is a central source of free information for anyone who has questions about college, financial aid, careers and job training.
800/842-0229 / 860/947-1810
edinfo@ctohe.org



With Saffron Gaudiosi and friends visiting on Girl Scout Day at the Capitol.



With students from Murphy Elementary.

USEFUL NUMBERS

AREA AGENCY ON AGING	203-785-8533
OFFICE OF HEALTHCARE ADVOCATE	800-466-4446
CT PARTNERSHIP FOR LONG-TERM CARE	800-547-3443
DEPT OF LABOR PROGRAMS FOR VETS	860-263-6514
DEPT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS	866-928-8337
DSS ELDER SERVICES	866-218-6631
MEDICARE ADVOCACY	800-262-4414
MEDICARE HOT LINE	800-633-4227
UNCLAIMED PROPERTY HOTLINE	800-833-7318
INFOLINE	211