

SESSION WRAP-UP

It remains a privilege and honor 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 share some highlights from 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. As part of our historic tax cuts, families of four who make \$50,000 annually **will pay no state income taxes**. This is another important step in making CT affordable for everyone.

We did it by working together – without gimmicks or partisan politics.

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.

Sincerely,



BIG WINS

- ✓ Historic funding for schools
- ✓ Massive deposit into Rainy Day Fund
- ✓ Sensible/sustainable budget
- ✓ CT a beacon for reproductive healthcare
- ✓ Early voting coming in 2024
- ✓ Investment in growing healthcare workforce

NEW LAWS FOR 2023-24

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE GERALDO REYES JR.

PROUDLY SERVING WATERBURY

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EN ESPAÑOL

Escanee el código QR
o comuníquese con mi
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boletín en español



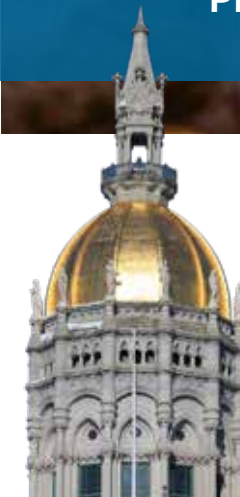
NEW LAWS IN CONNECTICUT

2023
2024



FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE
GERALDO REYES JR.

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SUPPORTING SENIORS

- Established a new coordinator of state services for people with dementia
- Expanded eligibility for seniors to participate in adult day services (serving those with early onset dementia)
- Required homemaker companion companies to provide notice to their clients before they abruptly close and prohibited any increases in rates without at least 60-day notice
- Strengthened patients' involvement in their homemaker care plans
- Increased funding for elderly nutrition and Meals on Wheels
- Allowed banks to freeze transactions when they suspect a senior is being scammed

INFRASTRUCTURE FUNDING

- Allowed permits for factories, waste plants, and other polluters to be denied or have conditions on them when they are proposed in locations that have historically dealt with high levels of pollution
- Banned hand-harvesting of horseshoe crabs
- Protected migratory birds by requiring state-owned and leased buildings to turn off unnecessary outdoor lighting
- Responded to the municipal solid waste crisis with new funding for facilities and mandatory food scrap diversion at colleges, hospitals, and nursing homes
- Provided additional funding to towns to deal with harmful chemicals like PFAS
- Expanded eligibility for Microgrid and Resilience Loans - allowing the state to build more green buildings

OUR BIPARTISAN BUDGET INCLUDES HISTORIC TAX CUTS!

A STATE BUDGET FOCUSED ON:



CUTTING YOUR TAXES

Our budget includes the **largest Personal Income Tax cut in CT history** by cutting marginal income tax rates, increasing the Earned Income Tax Credit, capping mill rates, and eliminating even more retirement income taxes.



INDUSTRY GROWTH

Our budget **supports CT's growing industries** such as childcare, adult-use cannabis, manufacturing, as well as media, film and theater production.



INVESTING IN STUDENTS

Our budget **invests over \$240M in public education** by stabilizing our state colleges and universities, expanding debt-free community college, fully funding our schools and local boards of education, and increasing scholarships and student debt relief.



SAFETY NET SERVICES

Our budget expands Temporary Family Assistance, increases Husky C eligibility, provides funds to community action agencies for residents facing immediate economic hardship, supports the 9-8-8 Suicide and Crisis Lifeline, and increases Medicaid rate reimbursements for providers and specialists.



IDD SUPPORTS

Our budget **invests over \$30M to better serve Intellectually or Developmentally Disabled individuals** by addressing agency waiting lists for services, bolstering employment opportunities, increasing Husky C eligibility, and breaking down silos for better coordination and data collection.

TRANSPORTATION

- Installing at least 120 wrong way driving systems on our highway exit ramps
- Installing emergency systems to alert all drivers about the presence of a wrong-way driver at high-risk exits
- Testing directional rumble strips to alert drivers that they are driving in the wrong direction
- Additional funding for our local rail lines and bus routes
- Municipalities must hold a public hearing on camera plans, receive legislative body approval before submitting them to DOT for approval as well as notify the public about a camera's location through public awareness campaigns, signage, and mobile navigation apps



YOUTH SERVICES & MENTAL HEALTH

- Requires the DSS to provide Medicaid reimbursement for certain mental health services at school-based health centers or public schools
- Hire temporary and part-time employees to collaborate with nonprofit organizations to identify and enroll eligible children in the HUSKY C health program
- Reduces license fees for certain professionals
- Additional funding for Waterbury Youth Services, WOW Center basketball courts along with Little League Baseball for the South End

