



Dear Neighbor,

I am proud to share some historic highlights from the 2022 legislative session.

To start, our state budget provided one of the largest tax cuts in Connecticut history. We made crucial investments in the mental health of our children. Our budget pays off millions in pension debt and continues our record rainy day fund while investing in Hartford's schools, mental health, public safety, and other programs that support working families.

Enclosed you will find legislation we passed supporting workers, small businesses, our environment, and so much more. As always, please reach out if you have any questions or concerns.

All my best,

*Matt Ritter*

## 2022 SESSION HIGHLIGHTS

- Addressing Children's Mental Health Needs
- Cutting Taxes to Deliver Meaningful Relief
- Expanding the Earned Income Tax Credit
- Bolstering Reproductive Freedoms
- Ensuring Future Environmental Sustainability
- Maintaining CT's Future Fiscal Integrity



STATE REPRESENTATIVE & SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

# MATT RITTER

PROUDLY SERVING HARTFORD

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## CAPITOL UPDATE 2022

State Representative Matt Ritter  
Legislative Office Building, Room 4000  
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

# CAPITOL UPDATE 2022



FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE &  
SPEAKER OF THE HOUSE

# MATT RITTER

PROUDLY SERVING HARTFORD

- 📞 860-240-8489
- ✉ [Matthew.Ritter@cga.ct.gov](mailto:Matthew.Ritter@cga.ct.gov)
- 🌐 [housedems.ct.gov/Ritter](http://housedems.ct.gov/Ritter)
- 📘 [facebook.com/SpeakerMattRitter](https://facebook.com/SpeakerMattRitter)







## RELIEF FOR FAMILIES

- This session we implemented Connecticut's first ever Child Tax Payment, bringing direct relief to residents
- If you claimed at least one dependent child under the age of 18 on your 2021 federal income tax return, you may be eligible to receive \$250 per child (up to three children)
- Scan the QR code to the right or visit [egov.ct.gov/drschildrebateform/](http://egov.ct.gov/drschildrebateform/) to access the Child Tax Payment application



Speaker Ritter standing with representatives from SEIU 1199, the state's Home Care providers Union, during an April rally at the State Capitol.

## ENVIRONMENTAL INITIATIVES

- Expanded eligibility for participation in the state's brownfield remediation program. This will bolster our efforts to help our city address brownfield sites that could be sustainably repurposed
- Expanded financing to develop zero emission vehicle infrastructure, build more solar power and fuel cells, and reinforce our electric grid against the effects of climate change
- Set a goal of reaching zero greenhouse gas emissions from electricity supplied to you by 2040

# I VOTED TO CUT YOUR TAXES

OUR STATE BUDGET INCLUDES

## \$650 MILLION IN TAX RELIEF

- ✓ Creates a Child Tax Payment
- ✓ Cuts property taxes for retirees
- ✓ Cuts the car tax
- ✓ Extends the gas tax cut
- ✓ Extends free bus service
- ✓ Ends pension and annuity tax
- ✓ Invests in healthcare workers



Left: Speaker Ritter presiding over the House of Representatives. Right: Speaker Ritter is honored as a "Champion For Children" at the Village for Families & Children Annual Reception.

## CHILDREN'S MENTAL HEALTH

- Created new walk-ins for mental health emergencies
- Helped school-based health centers develop new mental health programming
- Assisted local schools in expanded mental health staff and access to care
- Provided mental health training to parents, students, and pediatricians
- Expanded licenses to allow for more mental health professionals in the field.
- Ensured 24/7 access to Emergency Mobile Psychiatric Services
- Created a screening tool for pediatricians to identify early-stage mental health concerns
- Funded the expansions of school-based health centers and the services they provide



Hartford legislators and public officials welcomed restaurants and businesses from all over the city to "Hartford Day" at the State Capitol.

## FUNDING FOR HARTFORD

Last year, we invested in the future of Hartford by creating the \$875 million Community Investment Fund (CIF), ensuring a long-term commitment of state bond support for critical projects in our cities.

In this year's budget we secured:

- **\$2 million** for a new small business entrepreneurship pilot program to help local businesses in Upper Albany
- **\$1.1 million** for much needed upgrades to the police substation on the corner of Albany Avenue and Magnolia Street
- Investment in local landmarks like Elizabeth Park, Keney Park, The Harriet Beecher Stowe House, The Mark Twain House and Knox Urban Garden
- Lowered the car tax mill rate cap from **45 to 32.46**
  - If you own a ..... You will save:
  - 2010 Toyota Camry ..... **\$71**
  - 2020 Toyota Rav 4 ..... **\$245**
  - 2021 Ford Explorer ..... **\$294**