



Dear Neighbors,

I hope this letter finds you well. I'm writing to share some exciting news regarding the 2024 legislative session and the work we've been doing to support East Hartford and Manchester.

Over the past few months, the General Assembly has been hard at work deliberating and passing bills aimed at addressing pressing issues and improving the quality of life for all residents. The House took up major policy initiatives to address Connecticut's housing crisis, improve childcare and early childhood education, support our workforce, and provide funding to our community.

It's important to note that these bills were crafted after listening to feedback and concerns shared by you, our community members. Your voice matters, and I want to thank you for your continued engagement and advocacy.

For more information on anything included in the newsletter, or if you or your family need assistance, you can contact me by email at Jason.Rojas@cga.ct.gov or by phone at 860-240-8541.

Warm regards,



STATE REPRESENTATIVE JASON ROJAS

PROUDLY SERVING EAST HARTFORD & MANCHESTER

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CAPITOL UPDATE 2024

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2024 CAPITOL UPDATE



FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE JASON ROJAS

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SUPPORTING WORKERS WITH PAID SICK DAYS

Supported middle-class and working families by granting most full- and part-time workers access to Paid Sick Days over a three-year period:

- Use for yourself or to care for a loved one
- Up to 40 hours per year
- Roll over time to the following year

FUNDING FOR OUR TOWNS

- Over **\$17 million** in municipal funding for East Hartford
- Over **\$9 million** in municipal funding for Manchester
- **\$66 Million** for East Hartford Schools
- **\$46 Million** for Manchester Schools
- **\$300,000** for East Hartford school career training
- **\$200,000** for East Hartford youth sports
- **\$75,000** for East Hartford Youth Services
- **\$75,000** for Manchester Youth Services



LAST YEAR, WE PASSED A BIPARTISAN BIENNIAL BUDGET THAT INCLUDES HISTORIC TAX CUTS AND INVESTMENTS FOR OUR COMMUNITY:

- Largest Income Tax Cut in state history
- Biggest investment in public education ever
- New supports for the Intellectual and Developmental Disabilities community
- Expansion of debt free community college
- Protected safety net programs

THIS SESSION WE PROTECTED THESE TAX CUTS AND INVESTED MILLIONS OF FEDERAL FUNDS IN:

- Higher Education - \$160 million with a path to grow to \$200 million
- Early Childcare - \$21.8 million
- Mental Health - \$24 million
- Nonprofit Service providers - \$50 million



HOUSING INITIATIVES

- Incentivized towns to develop more multi-family housing
- Required 45-day notice of rent increases
- Streamlined the process for converting vacant nursing homes into housing
- Prioritized surplus state-owned land to be used for affordable housing
- Increased the value of state rental vouchers



SUPPORTING LOCAL SCHOOLS

- Capped the amount of money all districts pay to send students out of district – saving millions of dollars for local schools
- Required the State Department of Education to provide school districts an estimate of their next year's funding by the end of the current year, to ensure better budgeting
- Established the Education Mandate Review Advisory Council to review proposed and existing mandates on local Boards of Education
- Provided help to classroom paraeducators to pay for their health insurance
- Required same day parental notification when a child hurts themselves or others