



Rep. Rose joins neighbors and Red Cross Disaster Relief workers to distribute food to those in need following the storm.

Creating Jobs - My #1 Priority

The Legislature made sure Connecticut was open for business by enacting laws that:

- » Encourage businesses to create jobs by providing tax incentives through the "First Five" program
- » Expand our reinvestments in manufacturing
- » Provide student loan reimbursements for green-tech degree holders after 2 years employment in the field
- » Create the Connecticut Airport Authority to run our airports as economic engines for the economy
- » Save our Vocational Technical schools that teach the skills that put people to work.

Job Applicants Take Note of Credit Checks

Starting October 1st, when you apply for a job, employers can not require you to consent to a credit inquiry as a condition of employment. You can file a complaint with the labor commissioner if required to do so.

PLACE
STAMP
HERE

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CAPITOL REPORT 2011



Dear Neighbor,

This past legislative session was very difficult. The budget process was a long and arduous one to say the least. Our new governor, his staff and the legislature worked hard and tirelessly to bring a balanced budget forward. As your State Representative, I have been entrusted to do what is in the best interest for my district. With your input, and after much thought and consideration, I found that this budget was one that I just could not support.

There were several pieces of legislation that I introduced last session that did not make it to the floor. I will be presenting them again to the committee chairs. One notable bill I introduced creates an ongoing prescription drug take back program. Too many prescription drugs are getting into the hands of our youth. Overdosing and abuse of prescription medication is more common than abuse of most street drugs. In addition, if disposed of improperly, the medications make their way into our waterways, which is wreaking havoc with our environment. My legislation would allow the public to drop their unused prescriptions at the police department during business hours. The police department would then take the medications for incineration. The cost involved would be minimal.

Another bill I introduced would require contractors to be licensed by the state. Right now the department of consumer protection registers contractors. All that is required is a simple fee paid. There is no test of knowledge of basic building codes or contract compliance. Experienced contractors (already registered) would have the option of taking a written/on line test for licensing. New or failing contractors would be required to take classes which would be administered through our technical schools. The cost would be covered by the contractor. Currently we do not require contractors to have any proven knowledge.

Recent events like the earthquake and Hurricane Irene, make us more aware of what is truly important in life. I wish you a very happy and healthy year to come. Please feel free to reach out to me anytime with questions or concerns. I appreciate the confidence that you have placed in me, and I promised that your voice would be heard in Hartford. I trust that I represented you all well.

Best Regards,

Kim Rose
Kim Rose

Kim Rose

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Rep. Rose with Attorney General Jepsen discussing how her facebook account was hacked.

Our Energy Future

We helped lower energy costs and your electric rates while moving the state toward clean and efficient energy. By creating the new Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP), we now have a single state agency focused on energy issues. The bill seeks to help create industries, jobs and businesses necessary to support a clean energy economy for the future.

Reporting Child and Animal Abuse

A bill that requires the cross reporting of child abuse and animal cruelty was passed this year. Research indicates a strong connection between animal abuse, child abuse and domestic violence. Animal control officers and Department of Children and Family employees must now report to the state Department of Agriculture commissioner when an animal is suspected of being either; harmed, neglected or treated with cruelty.

Keeping Kids Safe

Background checks on all public school job applicants will become mandatory and laws about reporting and investigating cases of abuse or neglect have been expanded.

Protecting Children Against Bullying

We expanded Connecticut's anti-bullying law to include bullying, harassment and intimidation using the Internet or mobile phones.

Education

Now students who have been expelled from school may participate in adult education programs without being required to officially withdraw from school.

Strengthening Vocational Education

The State Board of Education now has the authority over the hiring process for teachers and oversight on budgeting at vocational-technical schools.

Getting the Best Teachers

We made it easier to get the best possible teachers into Connecticut's classrooms by streamlining the process for qualified professionals to teach in charter schools.

Paid Sick Leave

This year, we passed the first in the nation employee paid sick leave bill to let employees earn time off without fear of losing pay or their job. This landmark bill will help prevent the spread of disease at restaurants, day care centers and within the workplace for both employees and the public.



Rep. Rose with students from St. Mary's School.

Saluting Our Veterans

Veterans, along with their families, have sacrificed so much so we can enjoy our freedom and a democratic way of life. Veterans returning from foreign engagements need to know that we appreciate what they do for us and that means passing legislation that helps them and their families.

Veterans' bills passed this session:

- » Offer veterans' license plates to a member of the U. S. armed forces or his or her surviving spouse
- » Expand the waiver of property tax interest for certain armed forces members in Iraq and Afghanistan
- » Allow veteran status to be on a driver's license or identity card
- » Waive the \$20 fee for one certified copy of a veteran's death certificate when requested by family
- » Provide disabled wartime veterans with free parking, admission, and boat access parking to state recreational areas
- » Create a one-stop website for services available for veterans, www.ctveterans.org.

Local Tax e.Bills

Local tax collectors will now be able to send statements and process bills for residents and businesses electronically which will be more convenient and save money.

Housing Update

Public housing tenants deserve the right to elect their tenant commissioner and be actively involved in making their communities better places to live. If they choose to, tenants:

- » May petition in order to conduct an election to select the tenant commissioner
- » Can create a jurisdiction-wide resident council that meets federal standards and encompasses all of the duties of a housing authority to select the commissioner by means provided for in their by-laws.

State Funds to Cities and Towns Saved

Under a new budget agreement, towns avoided the proposed elimination of the Manufacturing Machinery and Equipment Exemption Program that provides for a 100 percent exemption of local property taxes on qualified and equipment.

Government Cuts

To address the state budget crisis we cut costs and streamlined government. This year Connecticut is being run more efficiently with:

- » State agency consolidations
- » Upgraded technology
- » Over \$700 million in spending cuts
- » No borrowing
- » Fully funded pension obligations.

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Devon Revitalization Funding

Rep. Rose lauds critical state funding for finishing the Devon Revitalization project in Milford.



Paid Sick Days

Rep. Rose discusses the new paid sick days legislation and the effect it will have in keeping workers and children healthy.

www.housedems.ct.gov/Rose

Drunk Driving

Ignition interlock devices (IID) will be required for repeat drunk driving offenders that will prevent them from starting the car if their blood alcohol content exceeds .08 percent.

Expanding DNA Collection

DNA samples will now be collected from convicted felons after a subsequent arrest. Since felons are likely to have committed other crimes, DNA can solve crimes with matches against a national database.

Helping Seniors

We focused on improving the quality of life for our senior citizens by:

- » Rejecting the proposal to significantly raise cost-sharing in the CT Home Care Program for Elders
- » Expanding the state's Money Follows the Person program
- » Establishing Nursing Home Grievance Committees at each facility.

Old Cans of Paint

When buying paint, consumers will receive information about where to dispose of it, including procedures for collecting, storing, transporting, reusing and recycling.



Visit my website to respond to my survey about Silver Sands Beach
www.housedems.ct.gov/Rose

Return this card to sign up for my email updates

NAME _____

ADDRESS _____

TOWN & ZIP _____

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