

HELPING OUR VETERANS

I am proud to be a member of the Select Committee of Veterans, because we work hard to introduce bills to help those who gave so much for our freedom.

As the mother of a disabled veteran, I understand their issues well. From helping our veterans reintegrate into civilian life, to finding jobs and housing, I will continue to support legislation to help all our veterans.



HELP FOR JOBLESS VETERANS

This session we worked to streamline the state licensing process for our job-seeking veterans. Connecticut veterans can now apply their military training toward occupational licenses, including public safety positions and a variety of trades. In addition, college credits can be awarded for specialty training and apprenticeship credits applied to specific trades.

STOLEN VALOR

It's a crime to lie about receiving a military medal or other Congressional decoration with the intent to fraudulently obtain money, property or other tangible benefits. It is also a crime to wear a military uniform with the intent to commit fraud. Violators can receive a fine between \$500 and \$1,000, up to six months imprisonment, or both.

SECURITY DEPOSIT GUARANTEES FOR ELIGIBLE VETERANS

The Veterans' Housing Program now allows the Commissioner of Housing to prioritize our state's veterans applying to receive a security deposit guarantee. An enrollee in the program may receive a security deposit equal to two months' rent.

AFFORDABLE HOUSING MORATORIUM

The Milford community welcomes well planned affordable housing, but not at the expense of jeopardizing the pristine character of our neighborhoods. In response to the deluge of 8-30g applications that have been coming before the local Planning and Zoning Committee, this legislative session, we were able to enact a one-year moratorium. I am working with the State Legislature's Housing Committee in Hartford to find a solution to address our situation. Developers should not be allowed to use current state statutes to circumvent our local regulations and threaten our Planning and Zoning Committee, rendering them helpless.

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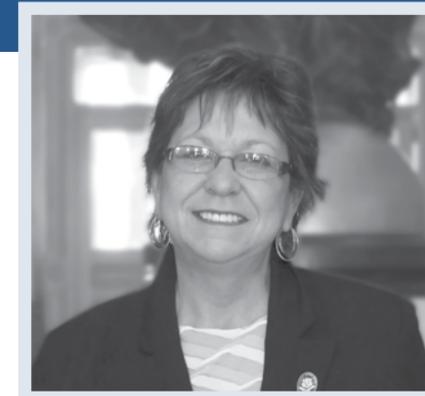
STATE REPRESENTATIVE
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Dear Neighbors,

The 2014 legislative session ended recently and I want to update you about what I have been up to in Hartford. This year was a what we call a "short session," but I am proud of the work we achieved in such a short period of time. In addition to the bills that I have highlighted, we have worked tirelessly to enact many other bills beneficial to us here in Milford as well as statewide.

Working to continue to help Connecticut's struggling economy, I was pleased to support a minimum wage increase, which will rise to \$10.10 on Jan. 1, 2017. Working families simply cannot afford to support their households at the current minimum wage, and deserve a livable wage.

The legislature also passed a law that keeps United Technologies, owners of Pratt & Whitney and Sikorsky, here in Connecticut for years to come. Over the next five years they will invest up to \$500,000,000 to upgrade and expand their aerospace research, development and manufacturing facilities and they expect to invest up to \$4,000,000,000 in research and other capital expenditures in the state. This is also great news for the employees of UTC, who now know that their jobs will remain in Connecticut for the foreseeable future.

We also committed to a study to look at Connecticut's entire tax system, with an eye towards making it more stable when the national economy is volatile, more progressive, and less reliant on property taxes.

I hope you find the information in this newsletter helpful. It is my pleasure and honor to serve as your state representative. Please don't hesitate to reach out to my office if I can ever be of help to you or your family!

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in cursive that reads "Kim Rose".

Kim Rose
State Representative

CAPITOL UPDATE 2014

PROMOTING RETIREMENT SAVINGS

Due to a decline in access, 50% of Connecticut workers aged 25-64 are not covered by an employer-sponsored retirement plan, resulting in a massive decrease in retirement savings for the average Connecticut resident. This has caused lower income and middle class residents to increase their dependence on Social Security. This year we worked to promote retirement savings by establishing the Connecticut Retirement Security Board and requiring it to conduct a market feasibility study on implementing a public retirement plan and develop a comprehensive proposal for implementing the plan. Among other things, the proposed plan must allow private sector employees to have a portion of their wages automatically deposited into state-administered individual retirement accounts with a guaranteed rate of return.



Lauralton Hall Girls Basketball Team 2014 Champions

SUPPORTING BUSINESSES TO GROW AND TRAIN WORKERS

Small manufacturers in Connecticut are an important source of jobs and the engine of economic growth. We work hard to provide support to these businesses through programs like the Manufacturing Reinvestment Account (MRA). The MRA is designed to help small manufacturers fund capital investments and train their workers. This year, we made it easier for businesses to take advantage of the program by increasing the number of employees an employer may have to be eligible for the program from 50 to 150.



STATE REPRESENTATIVE

KIM ROSE

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FUNDING OUR NON-PROFITS

I was instrumental in obtaining funding for Bridges, a Community Support system, Inc. which received \$148,055 from the State Bond Commission. Bridges offers a comprehensive range of behavioral health, substance abuse and primary care services.

Additionally, the Woodruff Family YMCA received \$250,000 to expand their programs and new renovations.



Milford Boys and Girls Club Ribbon Cutting

FOUNDER'S WALK

Our legislative delegation was able to obtain a \$300,000 grant in state funding for the Milford Founders' Walk project. Founder's Walk will be the gift to the city from the 375th Anniversary Committee. Nestled alongside the river on the Library side of the footbridge, it will feature a landscaped walkway and park near the site where the original settlers of Milford landed. Included in the walk will be a wall featuring the history of Milford and a Veteran's Wall.



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PROTECTING HOMEOWNERS AFFECTED BY STORM DAMAGE

This year we moved to further protect homeowners, especially those close to the shoreline, whose homes are impacted by significant weather events. Homeowner's insurance companies are now prohibited from refusing to issue or renew a policy solely because the property owner failed to install storm shutters on their home or have storm shutters on the premises. Insurers also may not decline to issue or renew a policy solely because of losses incurred from a series of storms. In addition, the deadline to file a suit related to a claim under a standard fire insurance policy has been extended to 24 months after a loss.

HELPING SENIORS

We created a grant program for home modifications and other assisted technology that will allow people to remain in their homes longer. The program is open to seniors and individuals with disabilities who are at risk of being unable to live independently without the modifications. We also required the Commission on Aging to recognize communities that are implementing livable community initiatives, which include affordable and accessible housing, community and social services, planning and zoning regulations, walkability, and transportation related infrastructure.

SAFE DISPOSAL OF UNWANTED MEDICATIONS

After 4 years of work on this bill, I was able to get it passed. This bill will implement a program to allow members of the public to dispose of unwanted medication in a secure lock box 24/7 at their local police departments. This will prevent unwanted medications from getting into the wrong hands or into our precious water supplies.

