

HELPING STABILIZE & LOWER PROPERTY TAXES

- Reformed retirement plans for municipal employees – saving towns hundreds of thousands of dollars annually
- Provided \$60 million in new funding for town governments
- Historic Funding for Local Schools: Prevented any town from receiving a funding cut to their local schools (\$6.5 mil); continued our commitment to funding local boards of education with an honest education cost sharing (ECS) formula (\$45 mil)

SERVING THOSE WHO SERVED

- Granted free graduate school tuition to eligible veterans and their families, as well as active members of the National Guard, and eased licensing requirements for childcare providers who serve military families
- Established funding and benefits for firefighters who are diagnosed with cancer



Dear Neighbor,

It is a privilege and honor to serve as your state representative. The 2023 legislative session is now in the rearview mirror, and I wanted to take a moment to check in and share some highlights from the past several months.

I'm proud to have worked on a budget that delivers historic tax cuts and increased funding for students, families, and our most vulnerable residents, while paying down our long-term debt, including an additional \$2.072 billion in unfunded future pension liability.

Most importantly, we did it by working together – without gimmicks or partisan politics. We prioritized education, supported non-profits, and invested in public safety.

I'd love to hear from you if you would like more details or have any questions on any of the initiatives addressed in this legislative update.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Kevin Ryan".



NEW LAWS IN CT: A YEAR IN REVIEW

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE KEVIN RYAN

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Representative Kevin Ryan
Legislative Office Building, Room 4000
Hartford, CT 06106-1591

CAPITOL UPDATE 23





CAPITOL UPDATE 2023

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE

KEVIN RYAN

PROUDLY SERVING LEDYARD, MONTVILLE,
AND NORWICH

CONTACT ME ANY TIME:

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE KEVIN RYAN

CAPITOL UPDATE 2023



IMPROVING HEALTHCARE IN OUR STATE

- Allowed over-the-counter drugs (including lifesaving opioid antagonists) to be sold through regulated vending machines
- Expanded pharmacy services to include vaccine administration of CDC immunizations, testing for COVID, flu, and HIV. Created temporary mobile pharmacies and required pharmacies to have a plan for unscheduled closings, including a method of notifying customers and using pickup lockers
- Established the Office of the Behavioral Health Advocate to help providers and patients navigate our insurance system, and expanded workers' comp coverage for anyone who experiences PTSD at work
- Created a statewide Drug Discount Card Program, regulated pharmaceutical sales reps, and banned anticompetitive loopholes in healthcare contracts

BIG WINS FOR LEDYARD, MONTVILLE, AND NORWICH

- Largest and second largest tax cuts in CT history
- Cut more taxes on retirement income
- Historic funding for schools
- Massive deposit into Rainy Day Fund
- Modern voting system with early voting
- Invest in growing healthcare workforce

OUR BIPARTISAN BUDGET INCLUDES **LARGEST TAX CUT IN STATE HISTORY**

- ✔ **\$600 million middle class tax cut**
- ✔ Increase **Earned Income Tax Credit** for lower income workers
- ✔ Expand cuts to retirement savings to **benefit seniors**

INVESTS:

- ✔ More funding for K-12 education
- ✔ More funding for higher education
- ✔ More funding for nonprofits
- ✔ More funding for childcare
- ✔ **MORE FUNDING FOR LEDYARD, MONTVILLE, AND NORWICH**



MAJOR INITIATIVES AFFECTING LEDYARD, MONTVILLE, AND NORWICH

MAKING CONNECTICUT SAFER

- Required bright orange labels on prescription opiates, and required trained EMTs to carry and use EpiPens
- Responded to wrong way driving by installing at least 120 wrong way driving systems on our highway exit ramps and testing directional rumble strips to alert drivers that they are driving in the wrong direction
- Responded to Opioid Addiction: created a harm reduction pilot to prevent overdoses - under the care of licensed providers; established a dedicated funding source for the bulk purchase of Narcan

SUPPORTING WORKERS AND SMALL BUSINESSES

- Required full disclosure of hidden fees on small business loans and required any loan offers to be good for at least three days
- Cut the number of reporting requirements for businesses, cut business taxes to promote expansion of childcare facilities, and made it easier for small contractors to bid on state projects
- Protected workers whose health benefits are terminated by an employer following a strike or labor dispute
- Expanded JobsCT to increase employment and job creation in our state
- Created tax credits and incentives for towns and businesses that build workforce housing.

BUILDING A SKILLED WORKFORCE

- Encouraging careers in our K-12 schools, offering nursing licenses at our colleges, and creating opportunities among our existing personal care attendant workforce, and incentivizing licensed providers with 10 years' experience to become adjunct faculty at CT colleges and universities
- Limiting the use of noncompete agreements for physicians, nurses, and physician assistants, and streamlined licensing for nurses and physical therapists who move to CT
- Partnering with other states for clinical training opportunities

SUPPORTING SENIORS

- Current law exempts 100% of pension and annuity income from the state's income tax, and we are halfway to phasing out 100% of IRA income for those making \$75,000 or less annually (\$100,000 for joint filers); we also extended these exemptions to taxpayers making up to \$100,000 (\$150,000 for joint filers) by phasing-out the deduction between 2.5% and 100%, depending on income
- We expanded Medicaid coverage for services
- Expanded eligibility for seniors to participate in adult day services, increased funding for elderly nutrition and Meals on Wheels, and we allowed banks to freeze transactions when they suspect a senior is being scammed