



State Representative

KEVIN RYAN

Bozrah, Montville and Norwich

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2013 Legislative Review

Dear Friends and Neighbors,

Thank you for your support and for allowing me to continue serving as your representative in the Connecticut General Assembly. I consider it an honor to have the responsibility.

We are all facing difficult times, both here in Connecticut and throughout the country. Therefore, I am committed to moving towards a leaner, more efficient government while ensuring the protection of our most vulnerable citizens and doing my best to keep essential services properly funded.

The 2013 Legislative Session is underway. Along with my role as Deputy Speaker, I have been appointed to positions on the Appropriations Committee, the Environment Committee, the Joint Committee on Legislative Management and the Public Health Committee. I've also recently been made chair of the Education subcommittee of the MORE Commission, which looks for ways to make local government more efficient.

Please keep in touch and contact me should you have any issues or concerns. I can be reached at the Capitol by calling (860) 240-8585 or toll-free at 1-800-842-8267. I am convinced that with your input and support, we can address the most pressing needs of our community.

Best wishes.

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Job Growth Is Number One

To keep Connecticut economically competitive with neighboring states, we must encourage business growth and job creation. We need to attract businesses to southeast Connecticut and continue to support the businesses that are already here, especially those hiring residents of Bozrah, Montville, Norwich. Consolidating and increasing tax credits for new hires, investing in emerging technologies and providing more employment for our veterans have shown great success, but more needs to be done. Building a more educated workforce and a more business-friendly climate will allow Connecticut to thrive in the future.

Supporting Our Seniors

Helping our seniors in their later years is an important responsibility of government. Seniors face a variety of challenges, such as maintaining their health and

keeping up with the bills on a fixed income. The legislature supports seniors in a number of ways including sending state funds to towns helping to stabilize local property taxes and passing tough consumer protection laws. Looking ahead, expect to see proposals to help seniors keep their independence as their healthcare needs increase. A special task force on “aging in place” is recommending ways to help older adults safely, independently and comfortably remain in their homes.

New State Wide Energy Strategy

Implementing Connecticut’s first state wide comprehensive energy strategy and examining the ever-rising utility costs for residents and businesses will be a top priority. Better preparation and response to major storms, creating micro-power grids and continuing the state’s march to clean energy are issues to be worked on in the coming months.

Education

We still must strive to make our schools a top priority in 2013 as they face new challenges. In 2012, the legislature passed historic educational reforms, now we must continue the work of implementing those important changes. Educating today’s students for 21st century jobs means closely aligning vocational-technical schools and community colleges with the needs of Connecticut industries. There are significant challenges we must overcome to ensure not only the success of our children, but also Connecticut’s prosperity.