



For our Families, a Safer & Healthier Connecticut

Ensuring that our families are protected is an important part of my duty as your State Representative, therefore I want to share with you some important steps we took to make Connecticut a healthier and safer place for our families. Outlined here are a few key bills my colleagues and I passed this year. As always, I look forward to hearing from you if you have questions or concerns about this year's legislative session, the budget, or any other matter.

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PESTICIDES & CHILDREN

Connecticut parents and guardians must be notified 24 hours before pesticides are used at day care centers. This does not impact a facility's ability to quickly eliminate immediate threats to public health, such as mosquitoes, ticks or stinging insects.

BANNING PRODUCTS WITH BPA

Infant formula containers, baby food containers, and all reusable food and beverage containers made with bisphenol-A (BPA) will be banned in Connecticut beginning in 2010. BPA, a chemical used in plastic products, has been linked to reproductive problems, learning disabilities, and cancer.

EXPANDING COVERAGE FOR AUTISM

Group health insurance policies regulated by the state must now cover the diagnosis and treatment of autism spectrum disorders, including behavioral therapy for children through age 14 as well as certain prescription drugs, psychiatric and psychological services.

KEEPING GUNS AWAY FROM CHILDREN

It is now illegal to give or sell machine guns to anyone under 16 in Connecticut. The law is in response to last year's tragedy when an 8-year-old accidentally shot himself in the head with a submachine gun.

PROTECTING KIDS IN SCHOOLS

Connecticut schools will now be allowed to accept gifts, donations, and grants for the purchase of Automatic External Defibrillators. These portable devices offer the best immediate treatment to restore heart rhythm during cardiac arrest. This common sense reform will save lives at no cost to the taxpayer.

HEALTH CARE FOR STEPCCHILDREN

Health insurance companies providing insurance coverage to residents in our state had differing guidelines pertaining to the coverage of stepchildren. I worked with my colleagues to ensure that health insurance policies now provide the same benefits to stepchildren as biological children.

Useful Numbers

INFOLINE	211
Consumer Protection	800.842.2649
CT Tax Department	860.297.5962
Healthcare Advocate	866.466.4446
Unclaimed Property Hotline	800.833.7318
HUSKY Health Care for Kids	877.CT.HUSKY
CT Trust for College Savings:	888.799.2438

*For more information on these
or other legislation please contact:*



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