

PROTECTING THOSE WHO HAVE SERVED

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



Dear friends and neighbors,

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

We worked hard to deliver a budget that adheres to our fiscal guardrails while still providing hundreds of millions in more funding to our local schools, colleges and universities, and services for our most vulnerable residents. As part of our historic tax cuts, families of four who make under \$50,000 annually will pay no state income taxes. This is another important step in making CT affordable for everyone.

We did it by working together – without the fighting you see in Washington D.C.

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

Sincerely,



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

NEW LAWS IN CT: A YEAR IN REVIEW

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE FARLEY SANTOS

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CAPITOL UPDATE 23

CAPITOL UPDATE 2023

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE

FARLEY SANTOS
PROUDLY SERVING DANBURY

CONTACT ME ANY TIME:

- 860-240-8585
- Farley.Santos@cga.ct.gov
- housedems.ct.gov/Santos
- facebook.com/StateRepFarley



STATE REPRESENTATIVE FARLEY SANTOS

CAPITOL UPDATE 2023



BIG WINS FOR DANBURY

- * **\$12,600,000** MORE IN EDUCATION COST SHARING FOR DANBURY SCHOOLS
- * **\$10,000,000** TO HELP OFFSET THE MAYOR'S MISTAKE AND OVERPAYMENT FOR THE DANBURY CAREER ACADEMY BUILDING
- * **\$1,104,000** FOR WESTERN CONNECTICUT STATE UNIVERSITY FOR SCHOOL SAFETY AND CRISIS PREPARATION CENTER
- * **\$912,038** MORE IN MUNICIPAL AID THROUGH PILOT FUNDING
- * **\$230,000** TO BUILD THE AFGHANISTAN-IRAQ VETERANS WAR MEMORIAL
- * **\$300,000** FOR DANBURY POLICE ACTIVITIES LEAGUE
- * **\$131,000** FOR DANBURY YOUTH SERVICES BUREAU
- * **\$100,000** FOR EDADVANCE
- * **\$100,000** FOR THE FRIENDS OF THE DANBURY MUSEUM & HISTORICAL SOCIETY AUTHORITY
- * **\$100,000** FOR DANBURY YOUTH BASEBALL
- * **\$100,000** FOR CULTURAL ALLIANCE OF WESTERN CONNECTICUT
- * **\$100,000** FOR THE BRIDGE TO INDEPENDENCE AND CAREER OPPORTUNITIES (TBICO)

OUR BIPARTISAN BUDGET INCLUDES LARGEST TAX CUT IN STATE HISTORY

- ✓ Reduced state income tax by lowering the 5% rate to 4.5% and 3% rate to 2% for year 2024
- ✓ Increased 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 mental health services
- ✓ More funding for community organizations
- ✓ More funding for childcare
- ✓ [MORE FUNDING FOR DANBURY](#)



MAJOR INITIATIVES AFFECTING DANBURY

BUILDING A MORE SKILLED WORKFORCE

- Expanded school-based apprenticeship opportunities in aviation and aerospace, training for future paraeducators, and dual credit/enrollment opportunities
- Created tax credits and incentives for towns and businesses that build workforce housing, including for teachers, police officers, and firefighters
- Encouraging careers in our K-12 schools, offering nursing licenses at our colleges, and creating opportunities among our existing personal care attendant workforce

ELIMINATING MORE TAXES

- 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 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 your income.

SUPPORTING SENIORS

- Established a new coordinator of state services for people with dementia
- Strengthened patients' involvement in their homemaker care plans and streamlined the process for filing complaints
- Expanded eligibility for seniors to participate in adult day services (serving those with early onset dementia)
- Expanded Medicaid coverage for services including primary healthcare, physical therapy, and meals
- Increased funding for elderly nutrition and Meals on Wheels
- Allowed banks to freeze transactions when they suspect a senior is being scammed

HISTORIC FUNDING FOR DANBURY SCHOOLS

- \$10,000,000 to help offset the mayor's mistake and overpayment for the Danbury Career Academy building
- \$12,600,000 more in Education Cost Sharing for Danbury Public Schools
- \$912,038 more in municipal aid through PILOT funding
- Prevented any town from receiving a funding cut to their local schools (\$6.5 m)
- Continued our commitment to funding local boards of education with an honest Education Cost Sharing formula (\$45 m)