

SUPPORTING AND HONORING VETERANS

- Exempted permanently and totally disabled veterans from paying property taxes
- Made it easier for veterans to earn a Q license endorsement to join fire departments
- Expanded eligibility for grants from the Military Relief Fund for families experiencing hardship
- Expanded veterans' driver's license and license plate options to reservists
- Formally recognized Vietnam veterans who were exposed to Agent Orange



Dear Friends and Neighbors,

The 2024 legislative session is in the books, and I am proud of what we accomplished. We focused on big issues in 2024: eldercare, protecting healthcare workers, childcare, early childhood nutrition, climate change, paid time off, targeting street takeovers, and we had to protect the largest and second largest tax cuts in state history. One of my main objectives was delivering for Danbury. This year, I delivered \$58.67 million to our city. I remain filled with deep gratitude and pride to be your state representative. Thank you!

Sincerely,



NEW LAWS IN CT: A YEAR IN REVIEW

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE FARLEY SANTOS

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CAPITOL UPDATE 24

CAPITOL UPDATE 2024

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE

FARLEY SANTOS

PROUDLY SERVING DANBURY

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE FARLEY SANTOS

CAPITOL UPDATE 2024



CONTINUING TO DELIVER **BIG WINS** FOR DANBURY FY24-FY25

IN ADDITION TO **\$12 MILLION** MUNICIPAL AID, WE HAVE ALSO SECURED:

- * \$25.5 million increase in Total Danbury Career Academy Project Cost Reimbursement at 80% of eligible costs that covers the former Esposito administration's \$20 Million overpayment for the Cartus Building
- * \$10.4 million for the Danbury High School science lab renovations
- * \$7.54 million increase in Education Cost Sharing for FY 25 for a total of \$54,129,128
- * \$1.92 million for Ellsworth Elementary School roof replacement at 64.29% reimbursement of an estimated \$3 million project
- * \$327,327 for Adult Education for FY 25

- * \$552,000 for the Western Connecticut State University Center For School Safety & Crisis Preparation
- * \$250,000 Working Cities Grant
- * \$75,000 for Danbury Youth Services
- * \$50,000 for Cultural Alliance Of Western CT
- * \$50,000 for Danbury Youth Baseball
- * \$50,000 for Friends Of The Danbury Museum & Historical Society, Inc.
- * \$25,000 for School Readiness Council
- * \$8,000 for Danbury Grassroots Academy uniforms

TOTAL DELIVERED FOR DANBURY \$58.67 MILLION

OUR BIPARTISAN BUDGET INCLUDES

PROTECTING TAX CUTS

WE PASSED A BIPARTISAN BIENNIUM BUDGET THAT INCLUDES HISTORIC TAX CUTS AND INVESTMENTS FOR OUR COMMUNITY.

- **LARGEST INCOME TAX CUT** in state history
- **Biggest investment in public education ever**
- **New supports for the IDD community**
- **Expansion of debt free community college**
- **Protected safety net programs**

THIS SESSION WE PROTECTED THESE TAX CUTS AND INVESTED MILLIONS OF FEDERAL FUNDS IN:

- **Higher Education - \$160 million with a path to grow to \$200 million**
- **Early Childcare - \$21.8 million**
- **Mental Health - \$24 million**
- **Nonprofits - \$50 million**



MAJOR INITIATIVES AFFECTING DANBURY

GROWING OUR WORKFORCE AND ECONOMY

- Expanded the small business loan program in lower-income communities and enabled more out-of-state businesses to expand into CT
- Supported middle-class and working families by granting most full and part-time workers access to Paid Sick Days over a three-year period
- Created a fund to improve and manage our small harbors
- Made it easier for out-of-state nurses and social workers to move to and practice in CT

ELIMINATING MORE TAXES

Local Option Residential Property Tax Relief

- A new law allows towns to provide a partial property tax exemption for certain owner-occupied primary residences. Towns can exempt between 5% and 35% of the assessed value of owner-occupied single-family homes, duplexes, condominiums and common interest community units.

Municipal Property Tax Assessment Freezes

- This year, the legislature changed the law to allow municipalities to provide a freeze for up to 30 years and expand it to also cover personal property.

MAKING CONNECTICUT SENIORS A PRIORITY

- Expedited Medicaid coverage for home-based care as an alternative to more costly nursing home care
- Created a new registry system to connect patients to home care providers and created a dashboard to help navigate nursing home options
- Created an incentive-based program to improve nursing home care in CT
- Strengthened oversight of negligent nursing homes

PROTECTING OUR ENVIRONMENT

- Banned numerous products containing dangerous PFAS chemicals
 - Required better notice when herbicides are sprayed along railroads
- #### Clean Energy Initiatives
- Expedited permitting for solar canopies and lifted caps on new solar production
 - Increased hydropower going to our power grid and extended offshore wind procurement