



Dear Neighbor,

The 2025 legislative session was dedicated to big ideas, bipartisan work, compromise, and solutions.

Connecticut is so different from Washington. Instead of drawing lines in the sand, we collaborate and have conversations with our legislative colleagues – and that can be seen in the work we do.

We focused on important issues in 2025: a balanced state budget, special education, childcare, protecting our seniors, supporting our veterans, electric bills, and addressing climate change.

I remain filled with deep gratitude and pride to be the State Representative for Stratford's 120th District.

Yours in Service,

Kaitlyn Shake

STATE REPRESENTATIVE
KAITLYN SHAKE 120th

PROUDLY SERVING STRATFORD

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HARTFORD, CT
Permit No. 3937



**CAPITOL
UPDATE 2025**

Representative Kaitlyn Shake
Legislative Office Building, Room 4100
Hartford, CT 06106-1591



**CAPITOL
UPDATE 2025**

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE
KAITLYN SHAKE

PROUDLY SERVING STRATFORD

- 860-240-8585
- Kaitlyn.Shake@cga.ct.gov
- housedems.ct.gov/Shake
- facebook.com/StateRepShake
- @staterepshake





SUPPORTING CONNECTICUT'S SENIORS AND VETERANS

- Insurance coverage will now require biomarker testing to detect cancer early and improve treatment options.
- Closed a loophole so that all employees at long-term care facilities undergo a background check.
- Granted towns the authority for new options to expand property tax exemptions for Gold Star families and TDIU veterans.
- Lowered the cost of prescription drugs by stopping middlemen from increasing their profits and guaranteeing rebates for consumers.

HISTORIC INVESTMENT IN CHILDCARE AND SPECIAL EDUCATION

- Established a new Special Education Expansion and Development (SEED) grant program based on school needs to help build local capacity so more students can be served closer to home.
- Ensured the state reimbursement grant for Special Ed students is funded at its highest level in Connecticut history.
- Established the Early Childhood Education Endowment of \$300 million. By 2027, families earning up to \$100,000 can receive childcare at no cost and families earning more than \$100,000 will pay no more than 7% of their income, making childcare affordable.

STRENGTHENING PUBLIC SAFETY

- Authorized towns to regulate and **penalize street takeovers**, including the ability to seize and destroy confiscated vehicles.
- Including two-year license suspensions and charge a minimum fine of \$2,000 for racing, evading police, or causing property damage.
- Expanded the work zone speed camera program.



HELPING CONNECTICUT'S WORKING AND MIDDLE CLASS

- Created a refundable tax credit of \$250 per filer through the Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC).
- Established a new tax-free savings account for first-time Connecticut home buyers.
- Expanded CT Paid Family and Medical Leave program to cover non-certified school employees.
- Authorized state financing to pay down COVID-era back payments and storm-related electric costs.



We expanded our **Fallen Hero Fund** to include the families of firefighters, EMT personnel, and paramedics who are killed in the line of duty so that they can receive financial assistance and health insurance coverage.



During the 2025 legislative session, we passed historic environmental protection laws that are comprehensive, practical, and equitable in protecting Connecticut's future.