

# 2015 Legislative Preview

I want to thank you for your support and for allowing me the privilege of representing you in the Connecticut General Assembly. I consider it an honor and will work hard to validate the trust that you have placed in me.

We all face difficult times as Connecticut turns the corner to economic recovery. I am committed to working towards a leaner, more efficient government while ensuring that we maintain essential services.

The 2015 Legislative Session is now underway. For this term, I have been appointed to positions on the Commerce, Judiciary and Public Safety Committees.

Please keep in touch and contact me with issues, concerns, or suggestions as to how I can more effectively serve you. Your input will help me make our community an even better place to live and work.

Thank you for allowing me the honor of serving you. Best wishes for a happy and healthy 2015!



STATE REPRESENTATIVE

## Caroline Simmons

STAMFORD | 144TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

Capitol: 800-842-8267

[www.housedems.ct.gov/Simmons](http://www.housedems.ct.gov/Simmons)



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## Supporting Our Seniors

Seniors face a variety of challenges including maintaining their health and keeping up with the bills on a fixed income. The legislature supports seniors in a number of ways: We send state funds to towns that help stabilize local property taxes, we pass tough consumer protection laws and we help pass measures to help seniors live independently. A special task force on “aging in place” recommended ways to help older adults safely and comfortably remain in their homes.

## Education

Connecticut has a history of excellence in education but we still must work to make our schools a top priority. In 2014, the legislature passed historic legislation that sets the stage for universal pre-K. Educating today’s students for 21st century jobs begins with a solid foundation in pre-school and elementary school. Improving our education system statewide will ensure not only the success of our children, but also Connecticut’s prosperity.



## Growing Jobs

Connecticut has been a national leader in new technologies and ‘green’ initiatives. We need to put Connecticut people to work in these emerging industries. Doing so will benefit Connecticut families as well as our economy. We must also continue to invest in local businesses. The success of Small Business Express, which provides capital to small businesses to grow and expand, has been important to our emerging economic recovery. We must continue to work with local businesses and connect job-creators with job-seekers.

## Energy Assistance and Conservation Programs

Rising utility costs have affected all of us. Connecticut has energy assistance programs that may help you cover energy costs or weatherization improvements. Please call Infoline at 2-1-1 for programs and guidelines. As your State Representative I will work to ensure that funding is continued for programs that provide assistance to residents.