

GROWING CT'S ECONOMY

- Invested in Milford without raising state income or sales taxes
- Repealed the poverty tax to stop the state from taking back cash and medical assistance when individuals fight their way out of poverty
- Provided more low-income families a break on their state income tax through the Earned Income Tax Credit
- Cut the sales tax on breast feeding supplies
- Eliminated state income taxes on IRA income over time, beginning in the 2023 tax year
- Increased protections on homes, cars, and bank accounts when someone falls into debt
- Expanded childcare services for parents who are working on their education
- Required employers to provide a salary range for job openings – making sure you don't waste your time on jobs that won't pay the bills; and that your salary negotiations are based on what the job is worth, not what you've been paid in the past

FIGHTING FOR OUR CHILDREN

- Successfully ensured that Milford's state funding for education was not reduced
- Raised awareness of child sex abuse and required comprehensive background checks for athletic leagues and youth camps
- Cracked down on online harassment with tougher penalties
- Created new training for athletic coaches to better understand the effects of heat illness
- Created an audit of remote learning during COVID-19 to understand its impact on students and the school community



STATE REPRESENTATIVE **FRANK SMITH** PROUDLY SERVING MILFORD

CAPITOL UPDATE 2021

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Hartford, CT 06106-1591

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Dear Neighbor,

The pandemic has produced numerous challenges and exacerbated existing institutional inequities. Throughout the 2021 session, my colleagues and I worked to address these new challenges and the existing injustices by passing over 350 bills and resolutions.

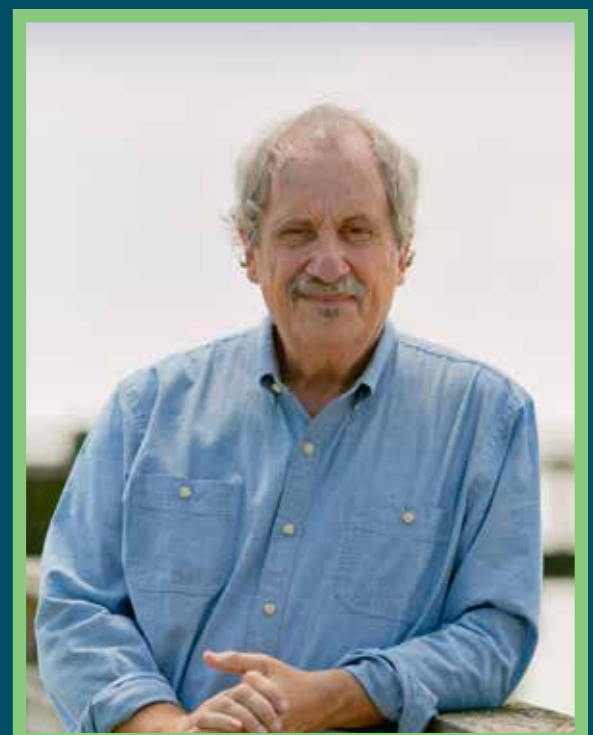
I know the past year has been difficult for each individual and family in our community, and I believe the legislation passed in Hartford will empower everyone in our district. This session I advocated for equitable public health policies, increased access to mental health resources, and additional support for our seniors, schools, and small businesses. I also worked with my colleagues to pass a bipartisan budget that will strengthen our economy and invest in our infrastructure, sustainability efforts, and education. I have fought to ensure Milford will see an increase in funding in both Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023 through this budget, and I voted against statewide zoning laws that may reduce local control. I am confident that these state investments will see our community recover and thrive as we move out of this pandemic.

Please continue reading below for more information on legislative highlights and resources developed this session that will benefit your family, our district, and our state.

Best,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Frank Smith".

Frank Smith



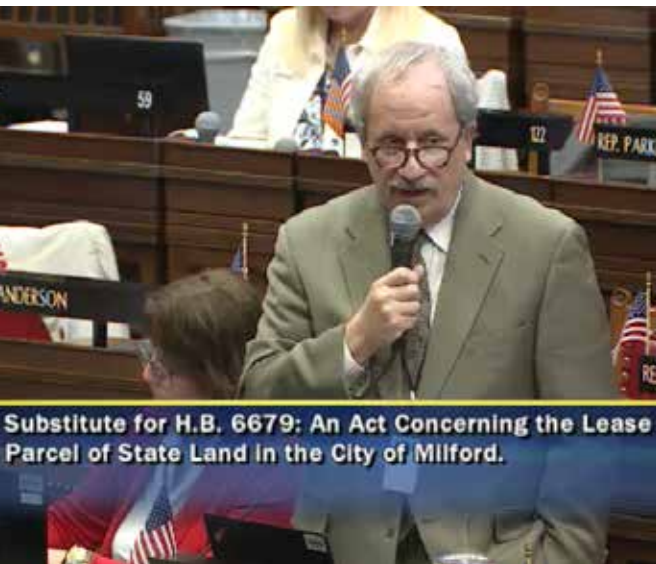
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Substitute for H.B. 6679: An Act Concerning the Lease Parcel of State Land In the City of Milford.

A GREENER CT

- Championed lease renewal for Audubon Coastal Center at Milford Point.
- Co-sponsored "Bottle Bill" which raised bottle deposits to 10 cents, applied deposits to more products and provided more money to towns and redemption centers to ensure these products don't wind up as litter or in a landfill
- Created a competitive program for fuel cell projects that favors CT-made equipment and will redevelop brownfields and landfills
- Created higher renewable energy standards for heat and electric utilities
- Balanced ecological and recreational needs while updating our plan for Long Island Sound
- Regulated the harmful chemical "PFAS"
- Empowered towns to better manage storm water on the local level



STANDING UP FOR SENIORS

- Defeated attempts to rollback tax breaks for seniors and retirees
- Required background checks at homemaker-companion agencies
- Created automated prescription and syringe dispensers at licensed facilities
- Allowed towns to offer more seniors a break on their property taxes
- Ensured access to virtual visits and monitoring by loved ones for nursing home residents
- Strengthened rights for residents of long-term care facilities
- Fought age discrimination in the workplace – limited the need for your age and other dates on job applications
- Reformed nursing home staffing, policies and supply inventories in response to COVID-19

HEALTHCARE

- Introduced and co-sponsored telehealth legislation to extend and expand insurance coverage—allowing patients to meet with their doctors and counselors from the comfort of their own homes
- Ensured more reliable tests for blood oxygen levels and prohibited insurance companies from making coverage and benefit decisions solely on these tests
- Ensured dental coverage for kids through their parents' plans, up to the age of 26
- Set minimum standards for long-term care insurance
- Provided new health care coverage to 40,000 low-income residents and families regardless of immigration status
- Provided better training and tools for police to respond to opioid overdoses
- Expanded workers' comp benefits for PTSD to cover emergency responders, corrections workers, dispatchers and health care providers who were on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic
- Strengthened rights for the deaf, deaf-blind and hard of hearing
- Improved mental health first aid training for paramedics
- Put community violence prevention programs on a path to sustainable funding and growth in our state – to serve more victims of gun violence and their families
- Declared racism a public health crisis and created a Commission on Racial Equity tasked with eliminating health disparities

