



Dear Neighbor,

From jobs to education to improving the response to natural disasters, we helped citizens in many ways this year.

It started last October when we passed comprehensive jobs legislation that invested hundreds of millions of dollars in small businesses, gave firms hiring incentives, aligned education programs with jobs-in-demand, and eliminated red-tape for growing companies.

This spring, we balanced a budget that includes \$87,916,971 in state funding for New Britain - an increase of \$2,730,260 from last year-which includes funding for education and vital services to help stabilize our property taxes.

Thank you for taking the time to complete my survey, your input helped shape my votes this legislative session.

Please don't hesitate to contact me if you have any questions about these issues or any others facing our state or your family. Together, we can continue to create a better future.

*Peter Tercyak*

## Let's Keep In Touch

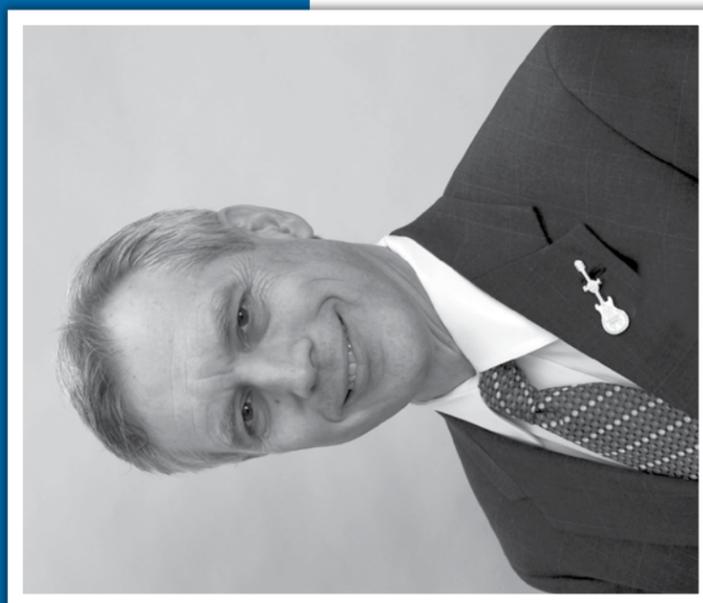
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State Representative

# Peter Tercyak

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## CAPITOL UPDATE 2012

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## State Representative

# PETER TERCYAK

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Rep. Tercyak presenting a citation to former Commissioner Ed Kozlowski at Polish day celebration.

## Seniors

### Elderly Rental Rebate Program

We extended the period for submitting applications under the rental rebate program from four months to six for the elderly and disabled. Renters can now apply from April 1st through October 1st.

### Grandparents Rights

Grandparents can seek visitation rights by providing specific and good faith allegations that (1) a parent-like relationship with the minor exists and (2) the minor will suffer real and substantial harm if visitation is denied. In the end, it is important that decisions are made in the child's best interests.

### Long-Term Care

A new law requires nursing homes to notify prospective and current residents if it is placed in receivership or files for bankruptcy. It also requires an assisted living facility to provide such notice if it files for bankruptcy.

## Supporting Our Veterans

### CT Veterans Charity Network

After receiving testimony about fraudulent charity groups trying to take advantage of good will toward those who serve our country, we helped protect consumers from these fraudulent groups by creating a legitimate charities list on the Department of Veterans Affairs website.

### Desecrating Veteran Memorials

We must honor the present and past sacrifices of our veterans. There has been an increase in thefts and vandalism of veteran memorials. We increased penalties for desecrating veteran's memorials beyond the monetary value of what was vandalized.

## Looking out for Connecticut's Children

### Statewide Education Reform

Working with parents and educators, we made sure that this year's historic education reforms provide new support to help turn around under performing schools and prepare our children for the 21st century by:

- Expanding pre-school programs
- Strengthening early reading assessments and programs
- Improving teacher evaluation procedures
- Creating a "Commissioner's Network" to turn around 25 of Connecticut's lowest performing schools
- Increasing funding for school-based health centers and family resource centers
- Increasing state support for districts in need

Every pre-school slot in New Britain previously state approved but not funded will now be funded & added. We are working on getting two additional pre-school programs in New Britain certified and approved so state funding may be allocated for additional slots.



New Britain delegation with Tobi Oni-Orisan Youth Governor of the YMCA Youth and Government program.

### Children With Special Needs

We strengthened the state's special education law by establishing a Deaf Child Bill of Rights to help address the individual needs of students, including developing language and communication plans for students who are deaf or hearing impaired. Other changes to the state's special education law include enhancing communication between schools and parents, and expanding training for teachers.

### Infant Heart Screening

Newborns will now be screened for congenital heart defects since failure to detect heart disease early can result in developmental delays. All health care institutions must perform the simple, inexpensive and noninvasive procedure starting in 2013.

## Creating Jobs

We continued the state's commitment to job growth and economic recovery with new legislation during special session that expands the Small Business Express Program, to an estimated 3,600 additional businesses. The program allows small businesses to access much-needed funding for capital investments and hiring.

In addition, the bill:

- Launches a new program to support a business's cost of hiring unemployed veterans for the first 180 days of their new job
- Creates a "Connecticut Made" program to promote products manufactured here in our state
- Allows the state Department of Economic and Community Development to give preference for loans and tax incentives to companies that relocate jobs from overseas to Connecticut

We created new opportunities for young people by funding the Youth Employment Summer Jobs program, and expanded adult evening education programs.

Additional high level jobs will result from economic development funding for the Jackson Labs project that builds upon our decision to become a world leader in bioscience and biotechnology.



Rep. Tercyak presenting a check from AT&T foundation to CMHA.

**Aby otrzymać kopię tej broszury w języku polskim, proszę napisać lub skontaktować się z Peter Tercyak:**

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**Si deseas una copia de este boletín legislativo en español favor de llamar al 860-240-8585**

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