## STATE REPRESENTATIVE

### LEGISLATIVE MID-SESSION UPDATE

#### Dear Neighbors,

I am proud of many of the proposals we are working on passing this year that will help create greater economic opportunity, reduce the cost of living on residents and ensure the health and safety of future generations.

The General Assembly will review each proposal carefully; your opinions will be important in crafting the best possible legislation.

You can follow the committee process by visiting the:

- CGA website at www.cga.ct.gov to view the schedule of events, stream House sessions online or track a bill.
- You can also track bills by visiting http://bit.ly/CTBillTracking and registering to track bills as they make their way through the process.
- You can also find out about giving testimony by visiting www.cga.ct.gov/asp/Content/YourVoice.asp

I look forward to hearing from you throughout the session. Please visit my state Facebook page www.facebook.com/staterepturco.

Hang Times

P.S. ONE OF THE BEST WAYS TO STAY UP-TO-DATE IS BY SIGNING UP FOR MY E-BLASTS. SIGN UP ONLINE AT www.housedems.ct.gov/Turco to get my legislative updates! STATE REPRESENTATIVE

**OF NEWINGTON** 

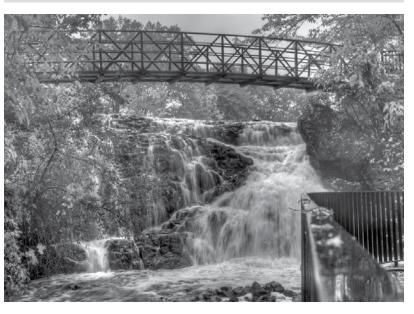
SERVING THE TOWN

ROUDLY

## LEGISLATIVE MID-SESSION UPDATE



# STATE REPRESENTATIVE



### STATE REPRESENTATIVE GARY TURCO



#### STUDENT LOAN DEBT RELIEF

Rep. Gary Turco's proposal (HB 6472) to provide tax credits to college graduates to help them pay off their student loan debt passed the Higher Education Committee with unanimous and bipartisan support.





#### **Earned Family and Medical Leave**

I believe that Family and Medical Leave (FMLA) is long overdue in our state. Connecticut families should be able to care for loved ones or themselves in a time of need. No one should have to face the prospect of economic ruin when presented with serious family needs such as caring for a newborn, a spouse or their parents. The bill has passed the Labor committee and is currently being worked on to insure a successful implementation.

#### **Moving Newington Ahead**

With the very successful start of the new Hartford line which runs commuter trains from New Haven to Springfield, Newington has an opportunity to have its own train station to provide greater access to mass transit for all residents. I will be strongly supporting this initiative. The station will also help encourage economic development and job growth throughout the region. Business leaders have stated that access to mass transit is one of the most important improvements CT needs to make to attract new businesses.

#### Preserving Open Space on Cedar Mountain

With little currently undeveloped land in Newington, I am working with my fellow Newington Legislators and town officials to preserve an additional 18.8 acres on Cedar Mountain that is currently owned by the state as open space and allowable recreational use for residents.

#### **Investing in Job Training**

I also want to build on the success of the workforce pipeline initiatives from last year and support the Democratic effort to expand these workforce development programs. Connecticut's high-wage manufacturing sector is on the upswing with Labor Department reports showing increased demand for skilled manufacturing workers. It is critical we have an efficient, effective workforce pipeline to meet the growing needs of Connecticut employers.

Sign up for my e-newsletter and other official updates at www.housedems.ct.gov/Turco and follow me on Facebook

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#### **Supporting Small Business**

I will continue to invest in and encourage the growth of local businesses by streamlining government services and expanding access to capital for small businesses. This will build upon the recent work we did implementing one-stop shopping and a dedicated business hotline at DECD.

#### **Reducing Prescription Costs**

I believe that healthcare is a right, not a privilege. With my fellow Democrats, I will fight to reduce prescription drug costs. When a person is sick they should be able to get the prescription drugs they need, and should never have to choose between food and medicine.

#### **Ultrasounds Coverage to Prevent Breast Cancer**

I am proud to be working with Newington resident Jan Kritzman, State Senator Matt Lesser, and State Rep. Kerry Wood on an initiative to ensure adequate and affordable health insurance coverage for women who have dense breasts and need an ultrasound to properly detect and prevent breast cancer.

#### **Green New Deal**

Climate change is real, and I will be a strong voice for our "Green New Deal" to encourage economic growth and job creation through programs focused on improving energy efficiency, expanding renewable energy, ensuring long-term sustainability and strengthening infrastructure resiliency. We need to transition to a much-needed climate-safe economy and move us closer to the ultimate goal of net-zero greenhouse gas emissions to protect our planet for future generations.

