

## WORKING TO MAKE ENERGY MORE AFFORDABLE

With the rising cost of energy in New England compounded by inflation and energy companies reporting record-breaking profits, I believe the Connecticut General Assembly needs to step in and do more to help.

Recently, I held a policy forum in Newington to discuss potential solutions. Legislation is also being worked on that will provide additional oversight and regulation on the energy industry and invest in diversifying our grid toward more renewable energy sources and away from dirty and expensive fossil fuels. I am hopeful we will pass a bill before the session ends in June.

There are several things you can do to help lower your costs. First, I encourage you to visit [energizect.com](http://energizect.com) to compare energy supplier rates that may cost less than Eversource and save you hundreds of dollars a year. You will also find information on making your home more energy efficient and incentive programs to help with the cost. You should also call 211 or my office if you need help connecting to assistance programs to help pay for your energy usage.



STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**GARY TURCO**  
27th House District | Newington & New Britain



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# LEGISLATIVE UPDATE

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE

# GARY TURCO

Dear Neighbor,

The 2023 Legislative Session is underway, and I am working hard at the State Capitol to advocate for the best interests of the 27th House District. This update will provide you with some key areas I am focused on to support you and your family.

This session, I have been appointed as a Deputy Majority Leader and will serve on the Screening Committee to help improve legislation after it passes out of a committee. I am also a member of the Transportation, Public Safety and Security, and Higher Education and Employment Advancement Committees.


Please scan the QR Code below to sign up for my email newsletter for updates on events I am hosting and legislation that has passed. I host events almost every month, such as policy forums, office hours, and opportunities to join me at the Capitol. I am also launching advisory councils for teachers and health care workers. Please collaborate with me so we can work together to improve our community. Your input is valuable in ensuring the best legislation possible passes.

At your service,


A handwritten signature of Gary Turco in black ink.




**SIGN UP!**

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## SUPPORTING OUR PUBLIC SAFETY



Rep. Turco standing with Past Deputy Chief Thomas Gill (center) and Past Chief James Trommer (right) of the Newington Fire Department at the Greater Hartford St. Patrick's Day Parade.

Helping to keep our community safe and supporting our front-line public safety officers is a top priority that I will never stop working on. As a member of the Public Safety and Security Committee, my work in this session is focused on improving the recruitment and retention of our public safety officials such as police, fire, EMS, and dispatchers.

Other legislation I am working on focuses on improved safety and protection of the community, such as reducing catalytic converter thefts, establishing a Greater Hartford Regional Law Enforcement Task Force to Combat Illegal Roadway Traffic Activity, and reducing gun violence.

Recently I testified with Newington Fire Commissioners Brian Whalan and Frank DeMaio in front of the Appropriations Committee to ask for the establishment of a grant program that will help municipalities pay for the removal of the toxic PFAS chemicals from fire trucks and replace it with safer alternatives.



## PRIORITIZING EDUCATION IN CONNECTICUT

Our public school educational system was severely challenged through the pandemic, and the consequences are still felt by our students, teachers, and staff. Many new programs were created and funded through federal dollars that are drying up, however, those programs are still needed to help catch up from lost learning time.

This session, I am helping by advocating strongly for legislation to help that will increase education funding by record amounts that will result in millions of additional dollars to Newington and New Britain (House Bill 5003). I also helped pass additional funding to offer universal free school lunches for the remainder of this school year and am working on an expansion for future years, so no child must try to learn while hungry.

Investing in education will always remain one of my top priorities at the Capitol, but I need your help in advocating. If you are an educator, please contact me about joining my new 27th House District teachers' advisory council.



(From left to right) John Wallace Principal Dan Dias, Superintendent of Schools Dr. Maureen Brummett, and Board Member Amy Perrotti meeting with Representatives Kate Farrar, Jeff Currey, and Gary Turco at John Wallace Middle School in Newington.

## STRIVING TO ENSURE SAFER ROADS



Rep. Turco, Rep. Farrar, Sen. Lesser, members of the DOT, and Chief Stephen Clark of Newington Police Department at the Roadway Safety Forum (March 29th).

2022 was one of Connecticut's deadliest years on record for roadway safety. In response, Connecticut has set a Vision Zero Council which focuses on developing statewide policies to eliminate transportation-related fatalities and severe injuries involving pedestrians, bicyclists, transit users, motorists, and passengers.

I joined the Transportation Committee this year because losing one life to a roadway collision that could have been prevented is unacceptable to me.

Some legislation I am working on to make our roadways safer include reducing the legal limit blood alcohol content from .08% to .05%; implementing more wrong-way driving countermeasures by installing wrong-way driving detection and notification systems on the highway; improving drivers' education training; installing automated traffic enforcement with red light and high-speed cameras; expanding public awareness campaigns; improved enforcement; mandating helmet wearing by motorcycle drivers; strengthening open container laws; and other initiatives.