



STATE REPRESENTATIVE
EDWIN VARGAS

PROUDLY SERVING HARTFORD

Phone: 860-240-8585 | Edwin.Vargas@cga.ct.gov

 www.facebook.com/REPVARGAS



Dear Neighbor,

I am pleased that Democrats and Republicans put aside their differences and came together to pass a bipartisan budget that moves Connecticut forward. While we had to make some difficult choices with this budget, I believe this agreement is fair, and also represents the priorities of the residents of Hartford.

Please don't hesitate to reach out to my office if you have any questions, or if I can ever be of help to you or your family.

Sincerely,



Legislative Office Building,
Hartford, CT 06106-1591
Phone: 860-240-8585

Email: Edwin.Vargas@cga.ct.gov
www.housedems.ct.gov/Vargas
www.facebook.com/RepVargas



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WHAT DOES THIS BIPARTISAN BUDGET DEAL DO FOR US?

PROTECTS HARTFORD

- Allocates extra funding for Hartford to protect our capital city from bankruptcy
- Protects our city from painful cuts to services and education
- Rejects bad ideas to move funding from cities to wealthy suburbs
- Safeguards working families by rolling back Republican cuts to the Earned Income Tax Credit, which helps 16,000 Hartford residents
- Protects car tax cut program from elimination, helping to keep taxes lower for taxpayers in Hartford

MAKES IMPORTANT INVESTMENTS

- Invests in small businesses that look to start and grow in our local communities
- Supports our local manufacturers and job training programs
- Invests in Hartford's Innovation Places program, which enables our city to reenvision our urban center and grow jobs in the innovation economy

PROVIDES SAFEGUARDS FOR STUDENTS & EDUCATION

- Saves UConn, community colleges, and other state universities from devastating cuts
- Secures a strong level of local education funding
- Creates a new education funding formula to shift funding to Hartford
- Protects college scholarships for more than 700 low- and middle-income Hartford Students

HELPS OUR SENIORS

- Phases in an exemption of social security and pensions from the state income tax starting in 2019
- Funding for the Renter's Rebate program was preserved, and although unfortunately language in the budget delayed the checks from going out, the problem was fixed and those who have already applied can expect to see checks in December.

DEFENDS WORKING FAMILIES

- We were able to restore funding to the Care 4 Kids child care subsidy program. This funding will allow for the program to reopen enrollment and begin to address the 5,769 families who have been on the waiting list. This is a program that helps low-income families afford safe, quality child care and allows parents to remain in the workforce.

PRESERVES PROGRESSIVE POLICIES

- Protects a program that ensures municipalities meet requirements for women- and minority-owned businesses when awarding contracts for certain projects
- Saves Connecticut's clean elections program to keep dark money out of our politics
- Supports programs for individuals with developmental disabilities