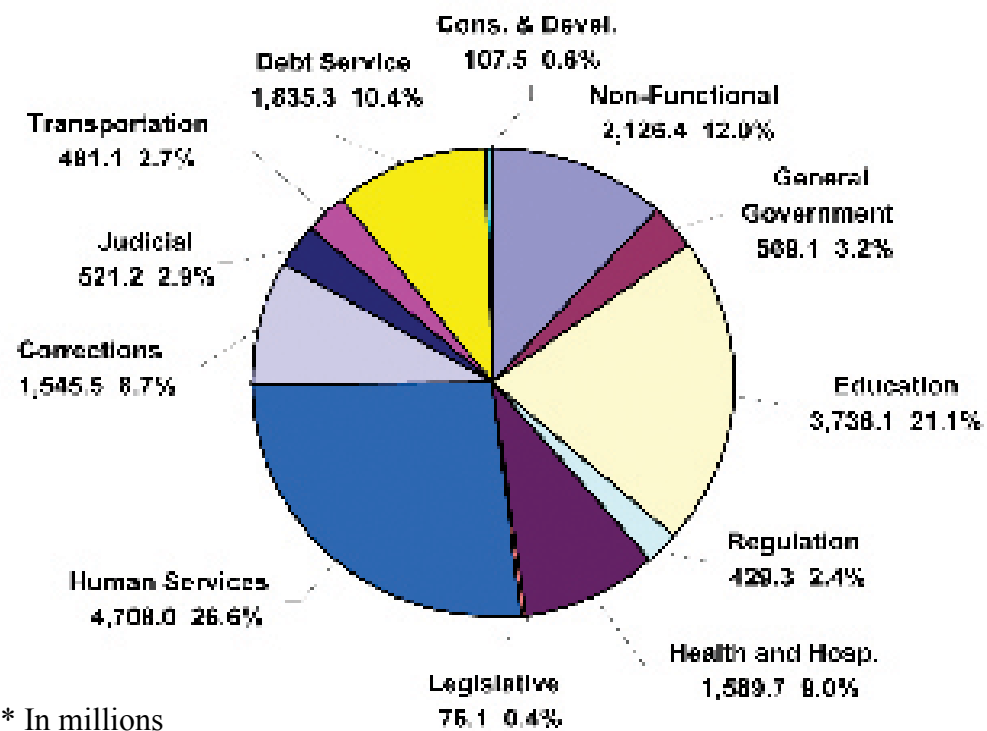


## State Money for New Haven

PILOT: State Owned Property: .....	\$4,837,068
PILOT: Colleges & Hospitals:.....	\$38,708,537
Mashantucket Pequot & Mohegan Fund:	\$11,036,075
Town Aid Road: .....	\$614,983
Local Capital Improvement Program: .....	\$1,714,333
Public School Transportation: .....	\$3,824,152
Non-Public School Transportation: .....	\$295,681
Adult Education: .....	\$2,425,616
Education Cost Sharing:.....	\$136,504,266

**Total Money for New Haven:  
\$199,960,711**

### State Spending for Fiscal Year 2008



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STATE REPRESENTATIVE TONI E. WALKER

Legislative Office Building, Room 4049  
Capitol Phone: 1-800-842-1902  
E-mail: [Toni.Walker@cga.ct.gov](mailto:Toni.Walker@cga.ct.gov)  
Web: [www.cga.ct.gov/hdo/93/](http://www.cga.ct.gov/hdo/93/)



WORKING FOR YOU!

State Representative

**Toni E. Walker**

Proudly Representing New Haven's  
93rd District



Dear Neighbor:

*I hope this newsletter finds you and your family in good health and in good spirits.*

*Another year has passed, and our state has been hard at work crafting the necessary legislation to improve education, health care, and services that the people of Connecticut deserve. In this newsletter, I would like to share some of our accomplishments that will benefit the people of the state and all of us here in New Haven.*

*Your letters, e-mail and phone calls continue to provide insight and allow me to understand your concerns. With your input, I will continue to fight for a better quality-of-life for the people of the 93rd District.*

Sincerely,

*Toni*

CALL ME FOR YOUR FREE  
COPY OF THIS YEAR'S:

Laws For Seniors • Laws For Children  
Education Laws • Environment Laws  
Major Public Acts • Business Laws

# Capitol Briefs

*This session I worked hard to provide for New Haven.*

- Funding for the New Haven Summer Youth Employment Program has been increased to \$ 1,125,000.
- Competitive grants are available to assist cities with developing anti-violence programs and services for urban youth, ages 12-18.
- Stun guns have now been classified as electronic defense weapons, and it's illegal for anyone other than a police officer to carry them on their person or in their vehicles.
- Cities are allowed to set aside purchasing contracts for up to \$10 million for small or minority-owned businesses.
- Senior citizens, age 60 and older, who complete an approved accident prevention course at AAA or AARP are eligible for an insurance premium reduction.



## Affordable Health Care

- Young adults are now eligible to be covered under their parent's insurance until age 26 -- up from age 23.
- More parents of children in the HUSKY A Program are now eligible for HUSKY coverage themselves due to the expansion of income limits -- up from 150% to 185% of the Federal Poverty Level.
- Maternity insurance coverage will be provided for mothers with income up to 250% of the Federal Poverty Level.
- Uninsured newborns are guaranteed medical coverage for the first four months of life.
- Connecticut's school-based health centers can expand their services due to increased funding.
- Long overdue rate increases were approved for doctors, dentists, hospitals, etc. who treat Medicaid patients. PA 07-185

**% of Federal Poverty Level**

# of People in Household	150%	185%	250%	300%
2	\$20,535	\$25,327	\$34,225	\$41,070
3	\$25,755	\$31,765	\$42,925	\$51,510
4	\$30,975	\$38,203	\$51,625	\$61,950
5	\$36,195	\$44,641	\$60,325	\$72,390

Previous Income Limits for Parental Coverage  
 NEW Household Income Eligibility for Parental Coverage  
 NEW Household Income Eligibility for Expectant Mothers  
 Household Income Eligibility for HUSKY B

## Transitional Rental Assistance

One of the major difficulties for families transitioning off the cash assistance program is finding affordable housing. I pushed to adopt legislation that provides an allotment for a transitional rental assistance subsidy. This subsidy provides people leaving the Temporary Family Assistance (TFA) Program up to twelve months of rental assistance for private housing, providing they meet certain qualifications. PA 07-16



## Juvenile Court Jurisdiction

Young adults aged 16- and 17-years old often lack the maturity to consider the consequences of their actions. I sponsored legislation that allows for 16- and 17-year olds who are arrested for non-violent crimes to be referred to the juvenile court system, instead of the adult court system. However, 16- and 17-year olds who commit the most serious of crimes will continue to be referred to the adult courts.

With this in mind, the focus is on rehabilitation, instead of punishment. Bringing 16- and 17-year olds under the juvenile court jurisdiction is the right thing to do for Connecticut's children, and taxpayers will reap the benefits in the future. PA 07-4



## Lost & Stolen Firearms

More than 10,000 firearms were stolen in Connecticut during a 10-year period from 1993 through 2002. Many of these guns end up on the streets of our cities. I worked hard to pass legislation that requires any person, who lawfully possesses an assault weapon or firearm that is lost or stolen, to report the incident to the proper law enforcement agencies within seventy-two hours of when they discover, or when they should have discovered, the loss or theft. The law also establishes the crime of firearm trafficking. A person is guilty



of trafficking if the person knowingly and intentionally allows firearms they own or possess to be in the possession of someone who is prohibited from owning or possessing any firearm under state or federal law. Trafficking less than five firearms is a class C felony (10-year jail term and up to \$15,000 in fines), and trafficking five or more firearms is a class B felony (20-year jail term and up to \$15,000 in fines). PA 07-163

## Useful Numbers

- Connecticut Legal Assistance.....1-800-413-7796
- Consumer Protection .....1-800-842-2649
- CT Tax Department .....1-860-297-5962
- Veterans' Benefits and Information .....1-800-827-1000
- ConnPACE.....1-800-423-5026
- Medicare Hotline .....1-800-633-4227
- CT Partnership for Long-Term Care.....1-800-547-3443
- CT Department of Veterans Affairs.....1-800-550-0000
- Healthcare Advocate.....1-866-HMO-4446
- Dept. of Insurance Consumer Affairs .....1-800-203-3447
- Dept. of Social Services, New Haven .....(203) 974-8400
- Dept. of Children and Families, New Haven .....(203) 786-0500
- New Haven Adult Education.....(203) 492-0213
- Area Agency on Aging .....(203) 785-8533

## Expanding After-School Programs

A top priority in strengthening the state's commitment to our students is the continued expansion of quality after-school programs. I made sure that over the next two years, the after-school competitive grant program will be infused with over \$2 million in new funds each year so more students will have the opportunity to participate in quality programs. The new funding will be used for better measurement of quality programs, improved accountability, professional development and accreditation support. To provide greater continuity in local programs, parent involvement now must be a component to qualify for this two-year grant. PA 07-3



## Modernizing ECS and Providing Property Tax Relief

Reforming the Education Cost Sharing (ECS) formula was a major accomplishment that provided a fair funding mechanism for public schools and relief to local taxpayers. I fought to amend "need" weightings, which account for students' educational and economic needs. Now, more weighting is given for low-income students and limited-English proficient students. PA 07-3

## Expansion of the Subsidized Guardianship Program

A stable home is often the key to a child's success. To help provide stability to many children and keep families together, the Department of Children and Families (DCF) will now offer additional assistance to a relative caregiver, such as a grandparent. I helped create the Subsidized Guardianship Program, which awards money to a relative caregiver, who is caring for both a related child and the related child's half- or step-sibling who is of no relation to the caregiver. This funding generally ends on the child's 18th birthday, but continues through age 20 if the child is enrolled full-time in college, technical school, or a state-accredited job training program.

The state took a major step forward in allowing foster parents, prospective adoptive parents, and relative caregivers the right to be heard at all proceedings concerning an abused or neglected child, who they are caring for, or who was under their care in the last year. PA 07-174

## Environmental Efforts

*I protected our future by securing eco-friendly legislation.*

### Making our Schools and Playgrounds Safe

- The use of lawn-care pesticides are now banned on playgrounds and all elementary and middle school playing fields. PA 07-168



### Electronic Waste

- Starting January 1, 2009, manufacturers of televisions or computer monitors that contain toxins must provide methods to safely dispose of these devices. PA 07-189

### High-Mileage Vehicles

- New Haven now has the option to offer property tax exemptions for vehicles with fuel efficiencies of at least 40 miles per gallon. PA 07-4