



For Seniors, a Safer & Healthier Connecticut

2009 legislative session has ended, and I want to share with you some useful information that may be important to you.

These are challenging economic times, but there are services that may assist you, a family member or a friend. I want to make sure that you have the information.

As always, please contact me if you have questions or concerns about this year's legislative session, or any other matter.

Roberta Willis
Roberta.Willis@cga.ct.gov

800.842.8267
860.240.8585

Legislative Office Building, Room 1802
Hartford, CT 06106-1591



the House Democrats of Connecticut

www.housedems.ct.gov/Willis

ROBERTA WILLIS

State Representative

Serving Cornwall, Goshen, Salisbury, Sharon & Torrington
64th House District

PRSRT STD
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
HARTFORD, CT
Permit No. 3937



State Representative
ROBERTA WILLIS

800.842.8267 www.housedems.ct.gov/Willis



For seniors, a safer & healthier Connecticut

HELPING WITH GROCERY BILLS

The Food Stamp program is now called Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP) and is easier for seniors to qualify for. SNAP helps seniors and families afford the cost of food at grocery stores.

Income eligibility requirements were recently raised, meaning a household of two can earn up to \$2,248 monthly and qualify for assistance.

www.ct.gov/SNAP | 800.742.6906

ENERGY ASSISTANCE

It is time to start planning for the colder months ahead. Home heating assistance programs have already begun to accept energy applications for the upcoming winter. These programs are designed to help qualifying homeowners and renters with their primary heating bills.

Torrington & Goshen | 860.496.0622

Cornwall, Salisbury, & Sharon | 203.744.4700

INSURING ACCESS TO DISCOUNT PROGRAMS

To make sure that seniors can take advantage of all discounts offered to them by businesses, stores must now have a prominent sign at the cash register, store entrance or point of display stating their discount policy, including the qualifying age and discount percentage or dollar amount starting October 1st.

LOCATING MISSING SENIORS

Connecticut now has Silver Alert, which is modeled after the Amber Alert system for missing children.

This will help locate missing seniors and mentally impaired adults by broadcasting an emergency missing persons notice to radio and television stations through the Emergency Alert System, as well as through 2,800 CT Lottery system retailers & electronic billboards.

PREVENTING FINANCIAL CRIMES AGAINST SENIORS

To protect seniors from fraudulent marketing practices, we prohibited financial consultants and life insurance agents from advertising that they are certified to advise seniors unless they have completed a qualified training program or meet state standards for certification.

Useful Numbers

| | |
|--|--------------|
| INFOLINE | 211 |
| Consumer Protection | 800.842.2649 |
| CT Tax Department | 860.297.5962 |
| Healthcare Advocate | 866.466.4446 |
| Unclaimed Property Hotline | 800.833.7318 |
| US Veterans' Benefits | 800.827.1000 |
| ConnPACE | 800.423.5026 |
| CT Veterans Affairs | 800.550.0000 |
| DSS Elder Services | 866.218.6631 |
| Medicare Hotline | 800.633.4227 |
| Department of Social Services / Torrington | 800.742.6906 |



For more information on these bills or other issues please contact:

Roberta Willis

800.842.8267 | 860.240.8585

Roberta.Willis@cga.ct.gov

www.housedems.ct.gov/Willis