



*Dear Neighbor,*

Thank you for allowing me the privilege of serving you as your State Representative. The 2013 legislative session has come to a close. This mailer gives a brief update about some of the issues we addressed during this session, and I hope you enjoy it.

This was a tough budget year but I am please to announce that Southington has maintained our state grant funding. Small business owners will be able to take advantage of increased investment in the Small Business Express Program. I was especially proud of the work my colleagues and I did within the House Democratic Caucus to remove an “Energy Auction” proposal in the budget that could have increased energy prices for seniors. I am also proud that the State of Connecticut was the first state to pass legislation on GMO labeling. “I believe that people deserve to know what they are consuming.”

Again, it is a distinct honor to serve you as your State Representative, and I do not take it for granted. Please let me know if you have any questions, comments or concerns.

*Sincerely,*



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STATE REPRESENTATIVE  
**David Zoni**



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STATE REPRESENTATIVE

**David Zoni**

*Serving 81st District/Southington*



## Doing M.O.R.E. to Save Towns Money

This year I served on the Municipal Opportunities and Regional Efficiencies Commission (M.O.R.E.). This important working group has been tasked with finding ways to reduce our government’s reliance on local property taxes.

The task force is all-encompassing, bringing together not just legislators, but also mayors, first selectmen, regional entities, board of education members, public safety officials, municipal employees and administration along with other interested parties from throughout our state.

I have been working hard to bring the voices of our district to this task force and help shape important and meaningful legislation.

### Let’s Keep In Touch

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## Improving Quality of Life

As a member of the Public Health Committee, I worked with committee members to improve prevention and response to chronic illness. One bill we passed will establish an advisory board to recommend the best practices for preventing, diagnosing and treating Lyme Disease and other tick-borne illnesses.

A second bill convenes an Alzheimer’s Task Force to develop a comprehensive, strategic plan to address Alzheimer’s disease.

A third bill requires newborn screening for Adrenoleukodys-trophy, which is a devastating genetic disease that can be life-altering or deadly if not detected early. Screening for this illness would allow doctors to cure or greatly mitigate this horrific disease.



## Jobs for Veterans

Due to military downsizing, Connecticut is expecting 5,000 to 7,000 veterans between the ages of 22 and 32 to return to our State in the next five years. These young adults will need assistance transitioning into civilian life.

This year a bill was proposed that would allow veterans to transfer credit and credentials earned in the military to meet State licensing requirements. For instance, if a Navy Corpsman obtained valid Department of Defense licensing or credentials in nursing then that Corpsman should be allowed to transfer those licenses or credentials to help them become a nurse in Connecticut. This applies to a wide-ranging list of military jobs, especially in medicine, truck-driving, and construction.

This year the General Assembly passed **HB 5387**, which will form a task force to look into this issue. “I am strongly supportive of this concept and will work hard to see it through. Helping our veterans helps our state’s economy, our families and our communities.”

### USEFUL NUMBERS

<b>SOUTHINGTON REC DEPARTMENT</b>	<b>860-276-6219</b>
<b>COMMUNITY SERVICES</b>	<b>860-628-3761</b>
<b>HOUSING AUTHORITY</b>	<b>860-628-5200</b>
<b>RECYCLING INFORMATION</b>	<b>860-585-0419</b>
<b>VETERANS</b>	<b>860-276-6211</b>

