### TAKING CARE OF OUR MOST VULNERABLE

#### **DISCONNECTED YOUTH**

- Spearheaded statewide data intermediary for disconnected youth, promoting nonprofit collaboration; prioritized empowering initiatives for disconnected youth, bridging education and employment gaps.
- Adjusted the Education Cost Sharing grant formula to increase funding for Bridgeport from \$192 million in Fiscal Year 2024 to \$201 million for Fiscal Year 2025.

#### **EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE**

Entrusted Early Childhood Office with Early Start CT, ensuring access to quality care and education; enhanced support for educators via a one-time wage supplement, valuing their role in children's development.



Dear neighbor,

The 2024 legislative session is in the books and I am proud of what we accomplished.

We focused on big issues in 2024: elder care, protecting health care workers, childcare, early childhood nutrition, climate change, paid time off - and we had to protect the largest and second largest tax cuts in state history.

I remain filled with deep gratitude and pride to be your state representative.

All my best,

In re



Representative Fred Gee Jr. Legislative Office Building, Room 4000 Hartford, CT 06106-1591

# **NEW LAWS IN CT:**

A YEAR IN REVIEW

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE FRED GEE JR.

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

# CAPITOL 24 UPDATE

CAPITOL 202
UPDATE 202

FROM STATE REPRESENTATIVE

# FRED GEE JR.

PROUDLY SERVING BRIDGEPORT



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# STATE REPRESENTATIVE FRED GEE JR.

# **CAPITOL UPDATE 2024**





# **BIG WINS FOR BRIDGEPORT**

- Providing Quality Care for Seniors
- Maintaining Historic Tax Cuts
- Making Childcare More Affordable and Accessible
  - Maintaining CT's Future Fiscal Integrity

# PROTECTING TAX CUTS

WE PASSED A BIPARTISAN BIENNIUM BUDGET THAT INCLUDES HISTORIC TAX CUTS AND INVESTMENTS FOR OUR COMMUNITY.

- LARGEST INCOME TAX CUT in state history
- Biggest investment in public education ever
- New supports for the IDD community
- Expansion of debt free community college
- · Protected safety net programs

# THIS SESSION WE PROTECTED THESE TAX CUTS AND INVESTED MILLIONS OF FEDERAL FUNDS IN:

- Higher Education \$160 million with a path to grow to \$200 million
- Early Childcare \$21.8 million
- Mental Health \$24 million
- Nonprofits \$50 million



# **MAJOR INITIATIVES AFFECTING BRIDGEPORT**

## IMPROVING EDUCATION

### PLEDGE TO ADVANCE CT (PACT) PROGRAM

- Expanded eligibility for the PACT program to transition program students, ensuring access to a debt-free community college education.
- Increased minimum awards for full-time and part-time students under the PACT program, easing financial burdens and promoting educational attainment.

# MAKING CT SENIORS A PRIORITY

### **NURSING HOME QUALITY OF CARE**

- Created the Center of Excellence Program to improve the quality of care in nursing homes, promoting person-centered, evidence-based practices.
- Implemented regulations to improve living conditions in nursing homes, including restrictions on room occupancy and disciplinary measures for noncompliance.

## **DEVELOPING OUR COMMUNITY**

### **CONCERNING POVERTY PILOT PROGRAM**

- Initiated a pilot program to reduce concentrated poverty levels in designated census tracts, fostering economic development.
- Provided incentives for hiring individuals residing in concentrated poverty areas, promoting employment opportunities and economic mobility.

## **ENSURING CRIMINAL JUSTICE**

### WRONGFUL INCARCERATION COMPENSATION

- Expanded eligibility for wrongful incarceration compensation, ensuring justice for those wrongfully convicted.
  - Recalculated awards based on median household income, ensuring fair compensation; Enabled deceased claimants' estates to receive compensation, acknowledging the impact of wrongful incarceration on families.