

# PUTTING YOUR HEALTH & SAFETY FIRST

- Strengthened protection for victims of domestic violence by prohibiting insurance companies from charging them more (PA 21-93), expanding definition to include coercive control as a form of domestic violence, and ensuring immediate cash assistance for victims and their families (PA 21-78)
- Blocked individuals that a court determines as high-risk from getting their hands on a gun (PA 21-67)
- Funded evidence-based programs preventing gun violence and supporting victims and their families (PA 21-36)
- Required smoke detectors in older homes (PA 21-165)
- Expanded workers' comp benefits for PTSD to cover emergency responders, corrections workers, dispatchers and health care providers who were on the front lines of the COVID-19 pandemic (PA 21-107)
- Improved mental health first aid training for paramedics (PA 21-134)
- Increased property tax breaks for volunteer firefighters and other first responders (PA 21-83)
- Lowered prescription drug costs by requiring manufacturing discounts go to the consumer and not the insurance company (PA 21-14)
- Continued coverage for, and access to, telehealth (PA 21-133 and PA 21-9)
- Ensured dental coverage for kids through their parents' plans, up to the age of 26 (PA 21-149)

# A GREENER CONNECTICUT

- Raised bottle deposits to 10 cents, applied deposits to more products and provided more money to towns and redemption centers to ensure these products don't wind up as litter or in a landfill (PA 21-58)
- Helped approve more anaerobic digesters on farms to address storm water runoff and food waste (PA 21-16) [Anaerobic digesters produce methane energy from organic material]
- Required more biodiesel in home heating oil and greater transparency for consumers (PA 21-181)
- Created a competitive program for fuel cell projects that favors CT-made equipment and will redevelop brownfields and landfills (PA 21-162)
- Created higher renewable energy standards for heat and electric utilities (PA 21-118)
- Regulated the harmful chemical "PFAS" (PA 21-191)
- Improved clean-up procedures and notifications when there's a sewage spill (PA 21-42)
- Empowered towns to better manage storm water on the local level, and expanded the CT Green Bank to give towns increased ability to invest in green infrastructure (PA 21-115)



STATE REPRESENTATIVE | 64TH ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

## MARIA HORN

PROUDLY SERVING CANAAN, CORNWALL, GOSHEN, KENT, SALISBURY, SHARON, NORFOLK, NORTH CANAAN AND TORRINGTON

### CAPITOL UPDATE 2021

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Dear Neighbor,

The pandemic brought many challenges to the Northwest Corner and communities throughout the state, often exacerbating existing inequities. Throughout the 2021 session, my colleagues and I worked to address these new challenges head on by passing more than 350 bills and resolutions.

This term I chaired the Public Safety & Security Committee and served on the Environment and Energy & Technology Committees, which focused much of my work, including bills touching on consumer protection, resources for mental health & addiction, recycling, and broadband. Beyond my committee work, I advocated for equitable public health policies, criminal justice reform, as well as additional support for our seniors, schools, and small businesses. I worked with my colleagues to pass a bipartisan budget that will strengthen our economy and invest in our infrastructure, sustainability efforts, and education. And I have fought to ensure the Northwest Corner will see an increase in funding in both Fiscal Years 2022 and 2023 through this budget. I am confident that these state investments, which include additional resources for our community nonprofits, will see our communities recover and thrive as we move out of this pandemic.

Please continue reading below for more information on legislative highlights and resources developed this session that will benefit your family, our district, and our state.

Best,

Maria Horn



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# MARIA HORN

## CAPITOL UPDATE 2021



### A DEMOCRACY THAT WORKS FOR ALL OF US

- Voters will get to decide in 2022 if we should have early, in-person voting and in 2024 you'll decide if every registered voter in CT should be able to vote by absentee ballot (PA 21-1 and PA 21-2)
- Guaranteed two hours off from work to vote in state and federal elections (PA 21-2)
- Paved the way for permanent drop boxes for absentee ballots (PA 21-2)
- Protected voters' personal information (PA 21-2)



## DELIVERING COMMON SENSE POLICIES FOR OUR FUTURE

### Legalized Adult Use of Cannabis (PA 21-1)

- Only for those 21 and older
- Balanced health, treatment, public safety and equity
- Erasure of past marijuana convictions
- Home grow in 2023
- Majority of state proceeds go to advancing equity and substance abuse treatment

### Legalized sports betting and online gaming (PA 21-23)

- Paved the way for our state's first Inspector General to independently investigate police-involved shootings (PA 21-8)
- Opened up year-round trout fishing (PA 21-12)

## GROWING CT'S ECONOMY

- Passed a strong, bipartisan two-year budget that invests in our economy, including: aid to our towns; tax credits for working families; access to quality, affordable healthcare & childcare; expanded workforce development support and increased support to nonprofit health and human service providers, with no increases in income or sales tax rates.
- Expanded the Small Business Express Program to help more local businesses grow and expand minority, women, veteran, and disabled-owned businesses (HB 6467)

### Leading the country with Equitable Broadband (PA 21-159):

- Assessment of state-wide access to the Web
- Grants to cities and towns for broadband projects
- Required internet providers to cover part of the state's costs

### Taking Care of CT's Restaurants

- Created a tax-free day for restaurants (PA 21-2)
- Continued alcohol to-go and delivery sales by local bars and restaurants (PA 21-37)
- Approved self-pour beer and wine machines at CT bars (PA 21-50)
- Cut permit costs for nonprofit and private clubs (like the VFW) (PA 21-10)
- Cut red tape and made outdoor dining a permanent option for bars and restaurants (PA 21-2)

